

Summer 2006

## Rollins Alumni Record, Summer 2006

Rollins College

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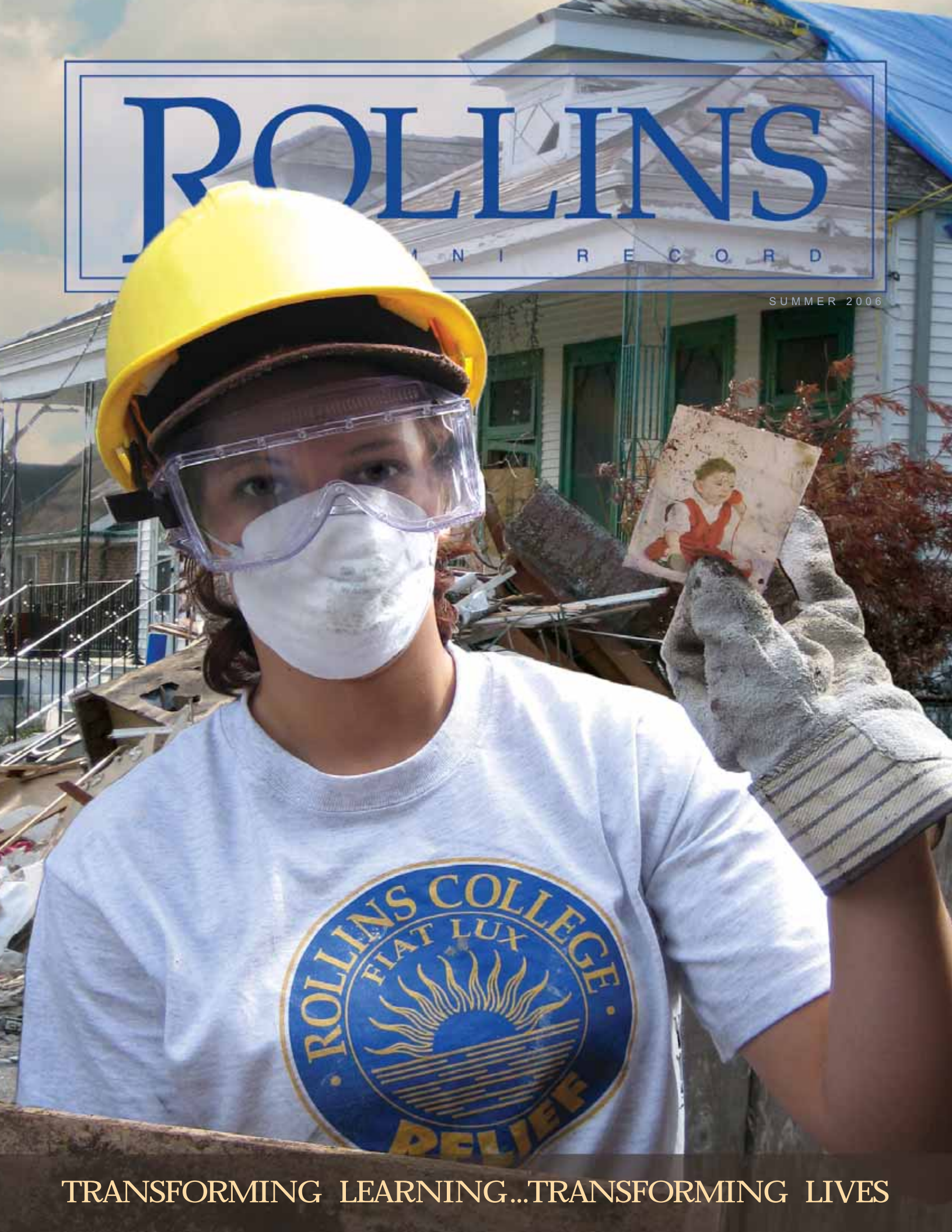
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# ROLLINS

MINI RECORD

SUMMER 2006



TRANSFORMING LEARNING...TRANSFORMING LIVES



During Spring Break 2006, a group of Rollins students, faculty, and staff spent several days in the New Orleans area gutting homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. The mission was organized by Rollins Relief, a campus organization committed to helping the victims of global catastrophes. See story p. 16.





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# ROLLINS

A L U M N I R E C O R D

SUMMER 2006



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Nicole Shaffer '06HH on a Rollins Relief mission in New Orleans  
Photo by Jeni Flynn Hatter



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A memorial tribute to Boyd Coffie '59 '64MAT  
By Stephen M. Combs '66

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By Leigh Brown Perkins, with contributions by  
Jeni Flynn Hatter and Warren Miller '90MBA

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EDITOR: Mary Wetzel Wismar-Davis '76 '80MBA

CLASS NEWS EDITOR: Laura J. Cole '04

CONTRIBUTORS: Robyn Allers, Stephen M. Combs '66, Jed Dunstan, Maureen Harmon, Jeni Flynn Hatter, Warren Miller '90MBA  
Leigh Brown Perkins, Vickie Pleus, Lorrie Kyle Ramey '70, Zaida Rios, Kelly Russ, Nate Weyant, Elaine Worth

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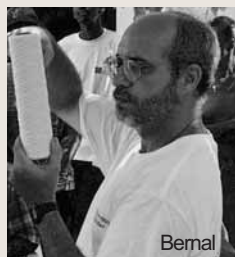
## FACULTY *feats*



Newman

**TAKING ISSUE**—Professor of Legal Studies and Communication **Marvin Newman** was interviewed on the NBC television affiliate and radio stations in Los Angeles regarding the United States Supreme Court Case *Gonzales v. Oregon*. Newman wrote an amicus brief in this case for the U.S. Supreme Court. The interview centered on his work on the case and in the field of thanatology.

**AGENT OF CHANGE**—Associate Professor of Chemistry **Pedro Bernal** traveled to Johannesburg, South Africa this spring to explore opportunities associated with water-purification initiatives in the region. His trip was sponsored by the Associated Colleges of the South (ACS) and the Foundation of Tertiary Institutions of the Northern Metropolis (FOTIM), which is the largest academic consortium in South Africa. His findings will be included in a proposal from the consortiums for external funding. Bernal has led water-purification initiatives in the Dominican Republic.



Bernal

**IN PRINT**—Jennifer J. Petters Professor of International Business **Ilan Alon** recently co-authored *Business and Management Education in China: Transition, Pedagogy and Training*, published by World Scientific (2005), and authored *Service Franchising: A Global Perspective*, published by Springer (2005).



**GLOBAL LEARNING**—Students in Professor of Anthropology **Pedro Pequeño's** *(I) Peru as a Global Culture* class visited the ancient fortress city of Machu Picchu while on a class field trip to Peru over Spring Break. The extraordinary pre-Columbian Incan ruin, which was virtually intact when discovered by Hiram Bingham in 1911, consists of five square miles of terraced stonework linked by 3,000 steps. Machu Picchu is situated on a high saddle between two peaks approximately 50 miles northwest of Cuzco, Peru. While journeying through the Andes Mountains en route to Lake Titicaca, the students experienced altitudes of more than 14,200 feet.

## New sports team assembled

### PARKER APPOINTED ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

After serving six months as interim athletic director, **Pennie Parker** has been appointed athletic director at Rollins. Parker joined Rollins in May 2002 as assistant athletic director and senior woman administrator, having served previously in the athletic departments at the University of Georgia, Jacksonville University, and Florida State University. She stepped into the interim AD position last July following the retirement of former director Phil Roach.



Parker

**OTHER APPOINTMENTS**—Men's basketball coach **Tom Klusman '76 '78MBA**, men's soccer coach **Keith Buckley '88 '94MBA**, and Rollins newcomer **Margie Sullivan** have been named assistant directors of athletics, and swimming and sailing coach **Rich Morris** has been named director of health education and student-athlete well-being.



Klusman

Klusman, who has built Rollins men's basketball program into one of the premier collegiate programs in the nation, will continue his coaching duties while serving as assistant director of athletics for external affairs.

A former standout on the Tars basketball team, he was named Rollins' head coach in 1980. A member of both the Sunshine State Conference and Rollins Halls of Fame, he has logged more than 450 victories and ranks 16th among active NCAA Division II head coaches in total wins. Under his leadership, the Tars have captured five SSC titles and two conference tournament titles, and have reached the NCAA Tournament four times, advancing to the Elite Eight in 2004.

Buckley will remain at the helm of the men's soccer program while assuming the role of director of physical education and assistant director of athletics for academic leadership. Buckley has been involved with Rollins athletics since joining the men's soccer team as a player in 1984. He has been the head coach of the Tars men's soccer program since 1991 and last season became Rollins' all-time wins leader in soccer. He earned a doctorate in education from UCF in 2003.

Sullivan will serve as assistant director of athletics for compliance and program assessment, as well as senior woman administrator. She comes to Rollins from Florida State University, where she served for more than a year as coordinator of intercollegiate athletics. Prior to that, she was senior woman administrator at Nova Southeastern University. Her career in athletics began in 2001 at FSU, where she served as director of sport program enhancement and research for three years.

Morris, who has coached the Rollins swim teams for the past 14 seasons and led the program through transition into the NCAA, will continue to guide the nationally ranked Tars while overseeing the health and wellness curriculum and its impact on campus health programming. He earned a BS in health and physical education from Temple University in 1977, an MA in health and physical education from the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga in 1984, and a Ph.D. in exercise physiology from UCF in 1997.



Buckley



## ALFOND AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



Longtime Rollins friend and athletics benefactor **Harold Alfond '97H** has been named the 2006 recipient of the Alfond Award of Excellence. Named in his honor, the Alfond Award was established in 2001 to recognize outstanding community service by a person whose life has been shaped, in good measure, by his or her participation in athletics. Alfond, who credits much of his success to lessons learned on the playing field during his youth, has devoted much of his life to ensuring that those same

lessons will be passed on to future generations. His generous gifts to Rollins have supported the Harold & Ted Alfond Sports Center, the Alfond Stadium, the Alfond Boathouse, and the Alfond Swimming Pool. Alfond and his late wife, Bibby, also established the Harold Alfond Athletic Scholarship, which provides financial support for outstanding first-year student-athletes. Alfond served on the Rollins College Board of Trustees from 1977 to 1983.

## Campus MovieFest: A Rollins Premiere

**ROLLINS ROLLED OUT THE RED CARPET** (literally) as members of the Rollins community arrived at the Cornell Campus Center for Premiere Night



in February to preview films produced by Rollins students. The glittering occasion was the culmination of Campus MovieFest, a program launched six years ago by students at Emory University that has become the world's largest student movie-making event. Rollins was one of only two schools in Florida, and among

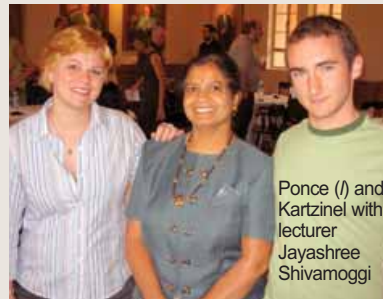
only 15 worldwide, selected to participate in the event this year. Representatives of Campus MovieFest had arrived on campus the week before with equipment for 50 teams to write, direct, film, edit, and screen their original five-minute screenplays, with the chance of winning a spot on The History Channel. Premiere Night showcased the top 17 films produced by Rollins students, and awards were given for Best Drama, Best Comedy, Best Documentary, and Best Picture. The films addressed topics ranging from the history of the Rollins "surf team" to date rape to abortion to aging in America.



PHOTOS BY JUDY WATSON TRACY

## SINCE *last time*

European studies major **Shellie Ponce '06** was awarded a **Fulbright Scholarship**. The 25th student in Rollins history to



Ponce (l) and Kartzinel with lecturer Jayashree Shivamoggi

earn the accolade, she plans to teach English in Germany ... Biology and environmental studies double major **Tyler Kartzinel '06** was awarded a **Morris K. Udall Scholarship**, which he will use to further his ecology research in Costa

Rica and Southeast Asia ... **Allan E. Keen '70 '71MBA**, chairman of The Keewin Real Property Company, was elected **chair of the Rollins College Board of Trustees**. New trustees include **Jacqueline L. Bradley**, vice chairperson of the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority; **Michael Maher '63**, founder and managing partner of Maher, Guiley and Maher P.A.; and **Thomas J. Petters**, chairman and founder of Petters Group Worldwide, LLC ... **President Emerita Rita Bornstein '04H '04HAL** was honored with the Orlando Regional Healthcare and *Orlando Business Journal's* **Women Who Mean Business 2006 Legacy Award** ... **Rollins College's** endowment was ranked in the **top 10 percent nationally** for both 10-year and one-year return on investment, among 753 reporting institutions, placing Rollins among the likes of Harvard, Princeton, and Yale for the 10-year return ... The **McKean Gateway** and the **Rinker Building** received **2006 Palladio Awards** from *Traditional Building* magazine ... Rollins hosted the first-ever **Asturian-American Symposium**, bringing more than 30 Asturian-Americans to campus for a weekend of scholarly presentations and a special performance by the Coral Avilesina Choir of Spain ... Rollins hosted notable speakers **Gary Baseman**, the three-time Emmy Award-winning creator of the critically acclaimed animated series and film *Teacher's Pet* and artist of the bestselling game "Cranium"; **bell hooks**, author and self-described "black woman intellectual"; and the following **Thomas P. Johnson Distinguished Visiting Scholars: Anne Collins Goodyear**, assistant curator of prints and drawings at the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery; **Copthorne Macdonald**, wisdom pundit and author of *Matters of Consequence* and *Toward Wisdom*; **Carrie Rebora Barratt**, curator of American paintings & sculpture and manager of the Henry R. Luce Center for the Study of American Art at The Metropolitan Museum of Art; **Simon Deng**, a native of the Shiluk Kingdom of southern Sudan and a leader of the struggle to stop genocide in Sudan; **Karen Armstrong**, author of *The Great Transformation: The Beginning of Our Religious Traditions* and *A History of God*; and **Winter With the Writers** guest authors **Tobias Wolff**, **Nathan Englander**, **Nikki Giovanni**, and **Dorothy Allison**.



Deng

—By Nate Weyant, Sports Information Director

## Rollins wins 4th straight National Championship

The Rollins women's golf team overcame horrid weather, lofty expectations, and a determined field to become the first ever Division II program with four NCAA National Championships.

The victory raised the program's tally of national championships to 11, a College best. **Mariana De Biase '06**, named an All-American every year of her college career, captured the individual title by one stroke. The team swept every major NCAA and NGCA award in 2006. **Charlotte Campbell '06** was named National Player of the Year for the fourth year in a row, and head coach **Julie Garner** was again named NCAA Division II Coach of the Year.



2006 NCAA Championship Women's Golf Team

## Basketball season ends with two SSC Titles

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

After being picked by the media and coaches to finish in 7th place in the Sunshine State Conference, the 2005-06 Tars surprised everyone by not only winning the regular season crown, but also scoring the program's second SSC Tournament title and returning to the NCAA tournament. They ended the year with an impressive 24-8 record. Coach **Tom Klusman '76 '78MBA** earned the SSC Coach of the Year award for the fifth time in his career and third time in the last four years.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Tars finished the regular season 26-0, becoming the first basketball team in Rollins and Sunshine State Conference history to complete a regular season undefeated. The team won its 10th conference title and advanced to the NCAA tournament for the ninth time. Head Coach **Glenn Wilkes, Jr.** was named the WBCA/NCAA Division II National Coach of the Year for the first time in his career. The team's 28-2 season record was the ninth consecutive 20+- win season and the 16th in Wilkes's 20-year tenure. Forward **Joslyn Giles '06** became the third player in Rollins history to be named SSC Player of the Year and the 17th player in Rollins women's basketball history to reach the coveted 1,000-point plateau.



Rothbeind '09

### SWIMMING

Celebrating their 10th season in the NCAA, the Rollins men's and women's swim teams broke a combined nine records and finished runners-up at the Sunshine State Invitational. The men ended the year 25th in the NCAA Division II poll while the women spent a few weeks in the top 20 earlier in the year.

### ■ SPRING SPORTS STATUS REPORT

**MEN'S GOLF**—**Dan Walters '06** captured the SSC Tournament title and led the Tars to a runner-up finish. The team tied for fourth place at the South Regional Championship.

**TENNIS**—The #12-ranked **women's tennis team**, under coach **Bev Buckley '75**, fell to #8-ranked Eckerd College at the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional Tournament to end its season 13-12. **Tasi Purcell '07** received the ITA/Arthur Ashe Award for Leadership and Sportsmanship, one of the most prestigious awards in collegiate tennis. The **men's tennis team** took fifth place in the SSC Tournament, ending the season 10-12 and 3-3 in the SSC. **Qi-Hao "Adrian" Tan '09** earned his first All-SSC honors.



Purcell '07

**BASEBALL/SOFTBALL**—Rollins' **baseball team**, under the direction of new head coach **Jon Sjogren**, concluded its season 28-27. Third baseman and relief pitcher **Gene Howard '07** was selected to the All-SSC first team. The **softball team** finished its season with an overall record of 45-16, the most wins for the team under head coach **Michelle Frew**. Shortstop **Kelly Cruz '06** was named to ESPN The Magazine's Academic All-District Softball team.

**ROWING**—The men's and women's crews ended the season with a good showing at the Dad Vail Regatta, with the women's varsity pair advancing to the semifinals, while the men's varsity 8 was fifth in its qualifying heat.

**SAILING**—The sailing team posted one of its best seasons on record and advanced to the SAISA Championships.

**Correction:** Soccer player **J.D. Gruenewald '09** was incorrectly identified as **Daniell Robertson '07** on p. 7 of the Spring 2006 issue of the *Alumni Record*. Our apologies.



—By Jed Dunstan

*Take a walk down memory lane and catch up on the current whereabouts and activities of your favorite Rollins professors.*



### Erich Blossey

*D.J. and J.M. Cram Professor of Chemistry*

After attending large universities, including Ohio State, Iowa State, and the Carnegie Institute of Technology (Carnegie-Mellon University), where he earned his Ph.D. in 1963, Erich Blossey joined the Rollins faculty as an assistant professor of chemistry in September of 1965 and immediately began involving undergraduates in original research to expose them to the highest level of discovery and learning. Sabbaticals at the University of New Mexico, Oklahoma State University, and Harvard University offered him opportunities not only to conduct cutting-edge research, but also to change the course of his research investigations. The experiences enabled him to obtain several patents, produce many publications, and develop a system that would make collaborative, original research projects more accessible for undergraduate students. Blossey joined forces with Associate Professor of Chemistry Pedro Bernal to begin the first student-faculty collaborative research project for rising sophomores at the College. What started with five chemistry majors and two professors during the summer of 1994 has blossomed into a program that now includes more than 60 students and faculty conducting research projects in everything from art to physics. “My teaching has evolved from a Socratic lecture-discussion format to an active-learning method where students work on problem solving in small groups, use an online homework system requiring them to draw those crazy structures, and use in-class electronic testing with transmitters and clickers,” said Blossey, the only current member of the faculty with more than 40 years of teaching at Rollins to his credit. His greatest pride is being a parent to son Erich ’06, a double major in computer science and physics; daughter Lisa ’04, a biology major; and daughter Christina, who graduated from Georgia Tech with a degree in mechanical engineering in 2003.

*“Rollins has been the special place I have called home for many years. During that time, many of my students have come to recognize their misguided notion that I could teach them something. In actuality, I become a guide for their learning effort. By becoming that guide, I have been given the privilege to be involved with so many bright students through undergraduate research. Rollins has been, and continues to be, a place with which I am proud to be associated.”—Erich Blossey*



### Barry Levis

*Professor of History*

For more than three decades, Rollins students have either quaked before or worshipped the magisterial presence of R. Barry Levis. A color portrait of Queen Elizabeth hangs behind his desk, signaling his love of all things British and his belief in traditional authority. In the spring of 1968, Levis was finishing work on his Ph.D. at Pennsylvania State University when he learned of an open position in the history department at Rollins College. During his first visit to the College, he was particularly impressed by the dedication of the faculty and administration—so much so that he turned down an offer from another institution to teach at Rollins. Levis joined the history faculty and soon found Rollins to be a very comfortable place in which to work—“an environment filled with supportive colleagues and interesting students.” The specialist in British history makes an impression on his students with his eccentric manner, dramatic teaching style, and high classroom expectations. Among his favorite teaching experiences were a course team taught with Professor of History Gary Williams that looked at both sides of the American Revolution, and Winter Term classes taught in England. Levis, who in recent years has become more involved in teaching interdisciplinary courses, looks forward to joining faculty members from the art department and the philosophy and religion department next fall in teaching *Culture Wars*, a course about cultural controversies in today’s world. In addition to instructing many memorable classes during nearly 38 years at Rollins, Levis draws great pride from the years he spent helping to develop and direct the College’s Master of Liberal Studies degree program. He remains actively involved with the program as editor of the *Journal of Graduate Liberal Studies*, an interdisciplinary publication that regularly features the works of Rollins alumni and students on subjects ranging from literature to the sciences to the arts.

*“Originally, I thought my time at Rollins would be short lived and I would move on to a larger university to conduct research. I discovered early on, however, that I loved teaching students. I hope my students remember that I had very high expectations of them because I believed they could achieve them. I am one of the lucky ones; I love what I do. By chance, I ended up where I was supposed to be—teaching at Rollins, ‘warping’ young minds.”—Barry Levis*



By STEPHEN M. COMBS '66

themselves. Stand on principle, even if it means you lose.

"He changed my life immeasurably by his fairness and integrity," said Vic Zollo '73, who transferred to Rollins from the University of Vermont his junior year solely based on Coffie's reputation.

Former Rollins third baseman John Castino '77 knows something about principle and its role in his education.

As the Tars were warming up for the 1976 season and Castino's first year of eligibility for the draft, Castino urgently needed to leave campus to attend to a personal matter involving competition for his fiancé's attention. He told Coach Coffie he would return in time for the season opener.

"OK, Johnny, but you have to realize there are consequences," Coffie warned. Castino wasn't worried.

"I said, 'OK, whatever,'" Castino recalled. "He might make me run eight miles; everybody would know it, and that would be the price to pay."

Castino returned to find his name missing from the lineup card. The scouts were there. This was to be the biggest day of his college career.

Castino rode the bench. Rollins lost the game.

"I confronted Boyd in the locker room," Castino said. "I was furious. But I learned an important lesson that day. He taught about following the rules. Not many people do that today."

Castino, who was co-Rookie of the Year his first of six seasons with the Minnesota Twins, had a final thought: "I ended up on the President's List because of Boyd Coffie. I went to the major leagues because of Boyd Coffie."

This is the defining characteristic of Boyd Coffie. The legendary Rollins baseball coach could have worked anywhere in professional baseball or at a Division I school. He was comfortable away from the limelight and never lost focus on his mission.

"He treated everyone the same, whether it was the person who cut the grass or Mr. Shirley, an 80-year-old man he took under his wing," said Winchester, who was one of Coffie's closest friends. "It didn't matter whether you were the star or the bottom man on the totem pole."

Todd Barton '84 is an example of how the legacy of one person takes on a life of its own. A high-school English teacher, Coffie's former player teaches as he was taught. "My students think they are gaining these traits from me," he said. "But in a very large sense, they are getting them from Boyd Coffie."

In a world where tough talk and brush-back pitches define the communication style, Coffie was something of an oddity. Jack Billingham, who

# A Life Well Lived

## Howard Boyd Coffie '59 '64MAT

### 1937-2006

Boyd Coffie's drive sliced sharply and landed in the woods—on top of a tree root. Down by five strokes in match play with only a par-four hole remaining, he faced the mathematical certainty of losing this round against partners David Lord '69 '71MBA and Steve Winchester '72. *Now I've got them where I want them*, he told himself. *I'll give them one more chance.*

"OK, *mano a mano*, all bets are off—winner takes all on the last hole," he announced.

Lord, a confidant of Coffie for 40 years and one of his early protégés, was telling this story and laughing so hard he had difficulty getting the words out. Such is the state of grieving for a man who may have influenced as many lives as anyone in the history of Rollins College.

When he died May 2 at age 68 from cancer in his hometown of Athens, Tennessee, Howard Boyd Coffie '59 '64MAT left a legacy in human

terms—the lives of those he touched.

"My whole management style and way of living my life are based on principles and values I learned from Boyd," said Lord, whose own father died when he was 16. "His rules were simple: Stay out of trouble, show up on time, play hard. And he expected you to do well in the classroom."

Coffie's accomplishments as player and coach are well documented but tell only part of his story. Above all, he was a teacher and, some would say, a philosopher. Baseball was his medium, the conduit for leaving his imprint on those who crossed his path.

His life, said Tom Klusman '76 '78MBA, "wasn't about wins and losses. It was about how he dealt with people." When Klusman became men's basketball coach at Rollins, Coffie was there as a mentor. Lesson one: Understand what is important. Don't live and die with every game. Do everything right and the wins will take care of

pitched for the Cincinnati Reds in three World Series, found his inspiration watching Coffie play at Rollins when Billingham was a high-school student. "I don't know that Boyd ever said a bad word about anyone," he said, "and I can't imagine anyone saying anything bad about him."

Boyd Coffie did not come up the easy way. His father left when Coffie was 13, leaving his mother and grandmother to raise him. But Coffie was a gifted athlete who by high school had caught the attention of college recruiters—and 14-year-old Linda Qualls.

"My 8th-grade math teacher told me you have to get over to the high school to watch this guy play basketball," Linda Qualls Coffie '62 '78MS recalled. They were married in 1962 and had two children who followed in their parents' Rollins footsteps: Ashlie '85 '89MBA and Trey '90 '92MAT.

After a stellar college baseball career followed by three seasons in the minor leagues, newly married Coffie wanted to settle down. He accepted an offer from his former Rollins coach, Joe Justice '40, to coach basketball and assist in baseball. Coffie had nothing to lose: The Tars had gone 0-26 the year before, and he would have most of the team back.

Lord was Coffie's student manager, trainer, and sounding board. He and Coffie drove the two team station wagons on road trips.

Coffie's job wasn't easy. "Jimmy Oppenheim [68] couldn't have been five feet tall," recalled Bob Richardson '68, *Sandspur* sports editor at the time and sports statistician. "At Miami University, Oppenheim guarded a guy who scored something like 59 points that night against Rollins.

"One time at Eckerd," Richardson said, "we had four guys playing zone and one guy playing man-to-man. Phil Kirk [67] could shoot from half court but not from anywhere else. This is the kind of thing Boyd had to deal with. He had all these problems, but the thing that is remarkable is that he took all of this in stride." Rollins won four games Coffie's first year. Much later, near the end of his run, the Tars beat Georgia. Some things were going right.

Lord wasn't an athlete. He was, however, dangerously overweight. The constant view of Coffie working out and staying in shape encouraged him to change his lifestyle. He lost 100 pounds, which saved his life when he underwent quadruple bypass surgery, his surgeon told him.

Lew Temple '85 credits Boyd Coffie for saving his life, as well. Temple's career has taken an unusual route, and that is what makes him an



## THE TENNESSEE PHILOSOPHY OF BOYD COFFIE



*"Son, make the adjustment!"*

*"How can I hep ya when you cain't hep yerself?"*

*"If you wanna dance, you gotta pay the band."*

interesting character. Too small for the big leagues but in love with baseball, he shagged roles as a bullpen catcher in Seattle and Houston, and then pursued different kinds of roles—on stage and screen. After years of struggle, he found success in the form of steady work in Los Angeles. Four years ago, however, he was near death.

After being fired from a movie contract because of serious illness he would not own up to, he landed at M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston, diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia and a 40 percent chance of survival. At one point during his 8-month hospital stay, when he was slipping in and out of lucidity while taking continual chemotherapy, he received a phone call from Coffie.

"I would hear from him occasionally when he had heard through the grapevine that I was getting a little too big for my britches," Temple said. "You know, like when we players know just a little too much about baseball. I don't know how he found out about my illness, but he did. He reminded me about who I was and what I had done, this small

boy who overcame all those things that stood in my way, and told me that this was just a hill for a high-stepper. He talked to me—not tersely, but not with pity. He reminded me of the fight I was in, and how I could take care of this.

"I got this call from my coach. He told me I was going to be OK, and I was going to be OK."

At his own funeral, Boyd Coffie once again did what he had done so well for so long. His protégés had come from afar and from eras spanning 30 years to say farewell. There were tears from grown men—and a lot of laughter in the celebration of a life well lived. Lord reflected on the event. "In the end," he said, "Boyd brought everybody back into a team."

All the fuss would have embarrassed him. Flashing that impish grin, he would have told each of them, "Son, make the adjustment!" For some, that will be the coach's toughest assignment yet.

*A celebration of Boyd Coffie's life will be held in the Knowles Memorial Chapel on August 13, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.*

## COFFIE'S CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

No. 20 on Rollins basketball all-time scorer list: 1,262 points

All-Florida First Team and All-Florida Intercollegiate Conference, 1958-59 (basketball)

Two-time NAIA All-American catcher

Florida Intercollegiate Conference baseball MVP, 1959

Three years in New York Yankee farm system, ending at Triple-A Richmond of the International League

Manager of the Year in the New York/Penn League, 1968, 1969, 1971

Won 94 games as basketball coach over 10 years; second-winningest coach after Tom Klusman '76 '78MBA

Rollins men's basketball coach, 1962-1971

Rollins baseball coach, 1972-1991, record: 586-419-6

South Regional Champions, 5th in NCAA Division II tourney, 1989

Sunshine State Conference Coach of the Year, 1983, 1987

Florida Coach of the Year, 1982



# Changing the World



JUDY WATSON TRACY

Assistant Professor of Anthropology Rachel Newcomb is an expert in Middle Eastern cultures—and a leader among faculty who are incorporating service learning into their courses as a way to apply textbook concepts in the community.

BY ROBYN ALLERS

Is there a hot-button issue today more searing than relations between the West and Middle East? With our attention focused on the radical fringe of Islam, misconceptions and assumptions about Muslims have only widened the gulf between our cultures. Assistant Professor of Anthropology Rachel Newcomb, who specializes in Middle Eastern cultures and societies, encounters these assumptions both in the classroom and in the community. She believes that her discipline offers the tools that just might begin to bridge the great divide.

The critical first giant leap, she says, is an understanding of the culture on its own terms. “Many people believe we are in a war with an entire civilization,” Newcomb said. “They think the Middle East is all about religion and that all Muslims are the same throughout the region, if not the world. But that kind of thinking discounts the effects of different histories, of colonialism, of a country’s relationship with capitalism, and so many other influences.”

Cultural anthropologists, like Newcomb, seek to understand a culture by studying the forces—historical, social, familial, religious, political, economic—that have shaped it over time. “We often see that their struggles are more similar to our own than we think,” Newcomb said. “Students see that factors like economics, family, and politics affect other lives just as they affect our own.”

Studying cultures means more than learning from textbooks and lectures. For anthropologists, the real education comes from fieldwork, gathering data by observing people in their own environment. It requires that we remove what Newcomb’s former student Isaac Stolzenbach ’05HH calls “culture goggles”—the thick lenses of preconception that frame the world within one’s own narrow experience and values. “It doesn’t mean abandoning your own value system,” Newcomb said, “but trying to understand a culture on its own terms.”

And listening is as important as observing, she explained. “Only through dialog can we

discover what other cultures' beliefs and ideas are rooted in."

While conducting field research for her dissertation on new roles for Muslim women in Morocco, Newcomb spent four months there on a Fulbright Fellowship working with several nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) formed to help women understand their legal rights in marriage and divorce. "As I talked with these women and heard their stories, it became clear that they had other pressing problems, like illiteracy or domestic abuse," she said. Such information led the NGOs to add services, such as literacy and job training, to their missions.

Newcomb's experience in Morocco demonstrated how the anthropologist's tools can help solve social problems. She now helps students make the same discoveries—and they don't have to travel halfway around the globe. Newcomb has been a leader among the growing number of faculty who are incorporating community engagement into their own courses as a way to make textbook concepts concrete.

For anthropology, community engagement is a natural fit, the students' fieldwork. Newcomb's students have worked with homeless populations, disadvantaged fifth-graders, senior citizens, Vietnam veterans, and children with severe mental disabilities—all cultures within our own. Newcomb is quick to point out, however, that "We do not want the students to see themselves in some sort of condescending position, that these people are needy, here we are to help. They may start out helping other people, but then they realize that the population they're working with is teaching them, just by communicating."

English major Oral Frier '08 worked at an unusual facility that housed both children with mental handicaps and the elderly in long-term care. Observing the interaction between the two groups was "amazing," Frier said. "It was like seeing how a different culture is formed." As he watched the special relationships develop between the seniors and the children, he saw in action what he had learned in the classroom. "What links us to our own culture is not so different from others. Kinship can be formed in the most unlikely of places."

Indeed. In Newcomb's course *Anthropology and Global Problem Solving*, Stolzenbach, an anthropology/humanities double major, immersed himself in the innovative Prometheus Project, which teaches humanities courses to the homeless. "We tend to think of the homeless as a bunch of drug-crazed maniacs when, in fact, most of them are on the street

for far more complicated reasons, a lot of times beyond their control," he said, recalling a conversation with one man whose cancer left him unable to work and pay bills. Before Newcomb's class, Stolzenbach was admittedly "jaded." Now the 30-year-old serves on the board of The Prometheus Project and continues his involvement with the group. He gives Newcomb all the credit. "You know that special gift that some professors have for reaching their students? Well, she's got it tenfold."

Stolzenbach boldly predicts that Newcomb "is gonna change the world." His own transformation helps explain his rationale: "Think about it in the evolutionary sense. Each one of her students becomes engaged in the community. That's 20 students making a difference in their own right, 20 gears turning, learning, and making social change."

That's the kind of transformation that drives Newcomb. In her less than two years at Rollins, she has won two service awards for incorporating service learning into the curriculum. As a faculty fellow for community engagement, she helps other faculty do the same in their own curricula. "My hope is that we'll have more of an institutionalized vision of what service learning is," she said. "It is transformative for a community. It is transformative for the student. It can be transformative for this entire campus."

**"Many people believe we are in a war with an entire civilization. They think the Middle East is all about religion and that all Muslims are the same throughout the region, if not the world. But that kind of thinking discounts the effects of different histories, of colonialism, of a country's relationship with capitalism, and so many other influences."—Rachel Newcomb**

At the same time she actively champions community engagement, Newcomb continues to pursue her own research interests. Last year, she received a Cornell Faculty Development Grant to conduct research in Morocco in preparation for a book that expands on her dissertation examining the ways that Moroccan women are "exploding the gender stereotypes and carving out new identities for themselves."

Which brings us back to the Middle East.

### **The Road to Morocco**

It started at Epcot. Half joking, Newcomb explained that it was on a family vacation to Disney's Epcot World Showcase as a curious 14-year-old that she "fell in love" with the Morocco Pavilion. When, as a history major at Davidson

College in North Carolina, she traveled to Morocco on a semester-abroad program and saw the real thing, an adolescent crush became a serious, long-term relationship with a fascinating and complex culture. Following graduation, she spent a year traveling in Turkey, Egypt, Senegal, and Morocco on a Watson Fellowship, and she was hooked for good.

Newcomb's commitment to anthropology took more time. An avid writer who had won awards for her poetry and fiction, Newcomb first attended Johns Hopkins University, where she earned an MA from the university's well-respected Writing Seminars. It was there that she took her first anthropology classes and found that the tools of the anthropologist served the writer well. "They teach you how to notice the details," she said, "and see where everything fits in." Her short story "Gifts," about the relationship between a young Moroccan woman and her American friend, won the first award in the Society for Humanistic Anthropology's Ethnographic Fiction Contest in 2004. "We're all a bunch of closeted writers," she laughed, admitting that she has "a few unpublished novels under the bed."

But because she didn't want to "approach writing academically," she decided to pursue her interest in anthropology, earning an MA and Ph.D. from Princeton University. She has traveled and studied extensively in the Middle

East and North Africa and speaks fluent Arabic and French.

In a way, the work of the anthropologist and the work of the writer have much in common. Both seek to illuminate human behavior and the myriad conditions that shape it. But where writers most often zoom in on individuals within a society, anthropologists step back to view the panorama of a culture. And from there, whether that culture is across the ocean or across town, they observe without judgment, listen to people's stories, and recognize the common links of humanity that might reach across the great divide. "Once you see yourself connected," Newcomb said, "you're more likely to understand what it means to be a global citizen." ■





“GO TO THE PEOPLE, LIVE AMONG THEM,  
LEARN FROM THEM, START WITH WHAT  
THEY KNOW, BUILD ON WHAT THEY  
HAVE, AND WHEN THE BEST LEADERS  
LEAVE, THE PEOPLE WILL SAY, ‘WE HAVE  
DONE IT OURSELVES.’”—LAO TZU

Assistant Professor of English Jennifer  
Henton and Jonathon Thomas work on  
Rollins' Habitat for Humanity house.



# TRANSFORMING LEARNING... TRANSFORMING LIVES

BY LEIGH BROWN PERKINS

YOUTH IS AN AMAZING DISTILLER. War, social injustice, community issues, cultural trends all get boiled down and condensed by eager young minds. They want to get quickly to the essence of a challenge and just as quickly to its resolution. Where youthful enthusiasm mixes with institutional ingenuity, a potent wellspring of ideology and activism results.

That wellspring today is Rollins College.

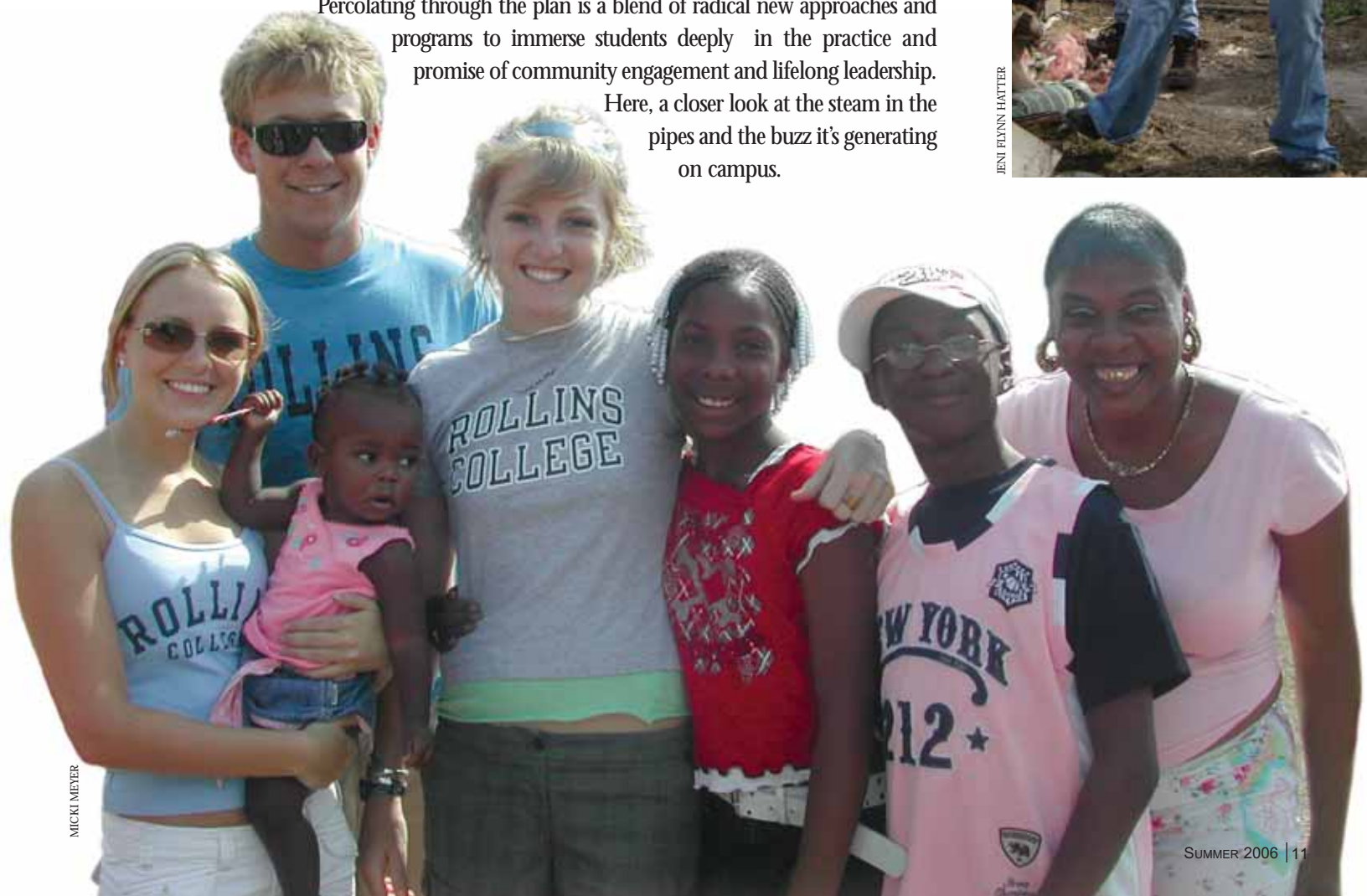
Motivated by the accreditation-reaffirmation process, faculty, staff, and students designed the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), which defines the College's course of action for continuing institutional improvement. Rollins sums up its mission simply: Global Citizenship—Responsible Leadership. "It was the students. They hijacked the QEP process," said Dean of the Faculty Roger Casey. "The College wanted to figure out what we should focus on for reaffirmation of accreditation and the faculty was swayed by the passion of the students about what really matters to them. We use the acronym RADICAL: Rollins Allies for Diversity, Internationalization, Community, Academics, and Leadership."

Percolating through the plan is a blend of radical new approaches and programs to immerse students deeply in the practice and promise of community engagement and lifelong leadership.

Here, a closer look at the steam in the pipes and the buzz it's generating on campus.



JENI FLYNN HATTER



MICKI MEYER





# ON GROWING

*Leadership on today's campus is an organic concept. Seeds of empowerment are planted, skills are nurtured, ideologies are formed, chances are taken.*

*Leadership in this era is not about growing a row of future CEOs or a plot thick with junior politicians. It is not a Dale Carnegie workshop, said Roger Casey, dean of the faculty and a driving force behind Rollins' leadership agenda. "It's not about position and power," he said. "It's about change."*

*Leadership at Rollins in the new millennium is focused on every student, in every discipline, finding unique ways of blossoming. And it starts with a sturdy root system, when each student digs deep to decide what really matters and how to make it happen.*

# LEADERS

## Rollins gets “RADICAL” about leadership and service

JUDY WATSON TRACY



Many students who come to Rollins never envisioned themselves as leaders. But the contemporary approach to leadership education is to help students find “the thing” that they are passionate about and help them get involved in it. Their passion for the issue will naturally stimulate their leadership reflexes.

“A lot of colleges do leadership training just by bringing students into a common space with a trainer to talk about conflict resolution and self-awareness,” said Cara Meixner, director of student involvement and leadership. “We have found that does not instill a deep and sustained commitment to leadership, service, or diversity. The best way is to take them into the community and allow them to see themselves in the context of the wider world.”

A service experience—building a Habitat for Humanity home, helping at Hospice, tutoring an adult literacy class, organizing a free concert—evokes an almost instinctive leadership response when it’s an issue or activity that personally moves the student.

“The fundamental building block of leadership is an abiding sense of who you are and what’s important to you,” Meixner said. “Service builds that kind of self-leadership.”

And a liberal arts campus is fertile ground for unearthing the true self. “Promoting leadership is a national trend in smaller colleges that have value-added focus on the student,” Casey said. “Rollins has the opportunity to distinguish itself as an institution dedicated to transforming leadership. In the past decade, Rollins has really started to create a vision for the intersection of three things: leadership, community engagement, and social justice.”

Learning by doing needs opportunities. The intertwined offerings of Chase Hall—the Offices of Multicultural Affairs, Community Engagement, and Student Involvement and Leadership—include both

standard and unconventional leadership experiences. There are the expected organizations like student government and honor societies. Then there are “deep” service-learning opportunities where passion and commitment nourish students’ nascent leadership skills.

Nowhere is this depth of service learning more apparent than in the relationship Rollins has nurtured with Fern Creek Elementary School. The school serves an economically underrepresented population, with some of its students living in homeless shelters. Rollins has “adopted” the campus and embraced every aspect of academic and social life at the school with creative gusto. Three years ago, Professor of Biology Eileen Gregory worked with teachers at Fern Creek to create a Science Academy to increase students’ exposure to science in every grade. Rollins students develop hands-on lessons for the children, inspiring them to become future scientists. Dozens of members of the Rollins community are involved in programs at Fern Creek, ranging from creating a reading garden, to serving as academic



JUDY WATSON TRACY

mentors, to hosting students from Fern Creek on the Rollins campus for a “college immersion,” exposing them to their possible academic future.

“It was a D-rated school,” said Micki Meyer, director of community engagement. “Now it boasts an A rating. This is the bridge between community

“The fundamental building block of leadership is an abiding sense of who you are and what’s important to you. Service builds that kind of self-leadership.”

—Cara Meixner

Director of Student Involvement  
and Leadership

Developer Hal George '76 (l), a leader in Habitat for Humanity efforts in Central Florida, and Adam Stanchina '07





Adam  
Stanchina '07

JUDY WATSON TRACY

engagement and leadership. The best thing you can say to a student is, 'What are you going to do about it?' Fern Creek is a challenge. Figuring out what to do about it is leadership in action. We are fortunate that Fern Creek provides us opportunities to connect, learn, and make leadership happen."

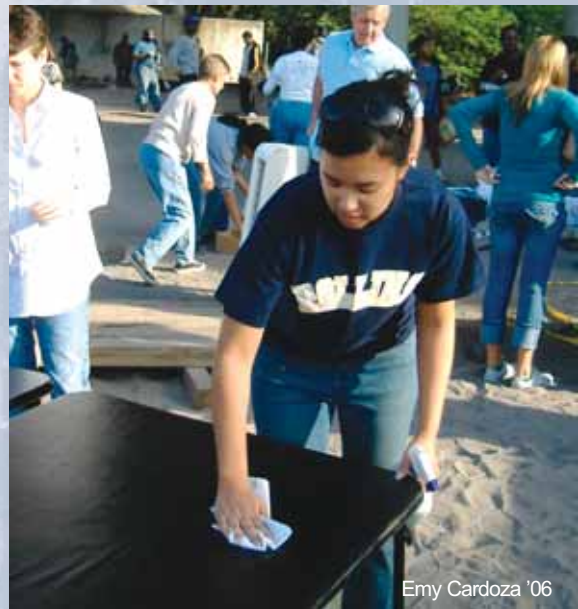
Off-site community service is only one branch of the leadership tree, though.

"Our next step is to have more focus on developing leadership in the academic curriculum," Casey said. "Grounding leadership courses is possible in all areas. For instance, in anthropology, you can look at concepts of leadership in tribal societies. In history courses, look at Lincoln and Churchill as leaders. There is a core body of knowledge out there. We just need to infuse all subject areas with these ideas if we want our students to graduate with a sense of leadership."

Tilling leadership into the curriculum develops students' skills without their even being aware of it. "When you're taking a class with a service component, you're not being told what to do, you're being shown the way and then encouraged to create your own vision for solving the problem," said Emy Cardoza '06, who took this year's winter intercession course on *Hunger and Homelessness*. "That's empowering."

Organizational communication associate professor Richard Bommelje, who wrote the book *Listening Leaders*, said Rollins has a holistic approach to leadership instruction. "What happens when we embrace leadership from that whole-person standpoint is that we nurture highly effective leaders who know when to lead and when to follow, when to step back and allow others to grow and lead. It's not about always getting yourself out in front."

Recruiting students who are natural leaders,



Emy Cardoza '06

## EMY CARDOZA '06:

A LEADER QUIETLY EMERGES

though, can inspire those less obviously inclined. To that end, the Cornell Scholars program is an exciting development. This national scholarship competition brings 60 highly talented students to campus each spring for interviews, essays, and group discussions, resulting in 10 being offered full scholarships.

"It's not just about being smart or having the 1490 on the SAT," Casey said. "Our goal is to develop this group of students so that they can fulfill their roles as campus leaders and in turn mentor their peers to be change agents, as well." ■

"We don't necessarily want to graduate the next politicians. It's not hierarchical or positional for us. We're looking for students to graduate with a deep awareness of themselves and how they can contribute positive change."

—Cara Meixner

Director of Student Involvement  
and Leadership



Fern Creek Elementary  
students at Rollins'  
Pathways to College  
Awareness Day

CAT MCCONNELL '07

Leaders can be like electricity, people of charismatic energy who seem to be everywhere all at once, shooting off sparks of their own importance. They are the live wires who get things done with style, the Bill Clintons, the Bonos. But there are other leaders who power organizations without high-voltage self-promotion. They are the quiet, undaunted forces, the Mother Teresas, the Clara Bartons. In this category belongs Emy Cardoza '06, a behind-the-scenes student leader who prefers the cause—not the effort—to get the attention.

"She gives of herself without recognition," said Cara Meixner, director of student involvement and leadership. "She's never had the title of president or director, but she is a service leader at the grassroots level, making real connections with people."

Cardoza has served twice as a peer mentor for Rollins College Conference courses, helping first-year students write their papers, manage their schedules, and find their place socially on campus. She considers mentoring fair payback for the benefits she received as a freshman. "Peer mentors showed me the ropes," she said. "They really helped me to handle stress and find my niche. Without them, I don't know that I would have felt that I had made the right decision in coming to Rollins."

It was during a different course—*Hunger and Homelessness*—that Cardoza came to the attention of Meixner. Students in the class learned about the topic firsthand, with an overnight stay in a homeless shelter, hours in the soup kitchen, meaningful conversations with families living on the street. "It is a difficult course, very uncomfortable," said Meixner, who

co-teaches the class. "What I saw in Emy was her ability to connect with the other students. She immediately intuited that there were students who were struggling, and she put their needs ahead of her own. I saw her emerge as a leader, overnight, in a homeless shelter."

Cardoza's interest in homelessness did not end when the class did. She continues to volunteer. "When I see someone on the street now, I know they are a valuable person, with a life story, with dignity. They should be affirmed, spoken to, smiled at, not overlooked."

A senior in religious studies, Cardoza plans to attend seminary for a master's in divinity. She would like to study counseling, as well, with the hope of working with students in a community-center setting. A graduate of the International Baccalaureate program at Jacksonville's Stanton College Preparatory School, Cardoza is a Bright Futures scholar who accrued many volunteer hours as a teenager. She has held several behind-the-scenes leadership roles in her sorority, AOPi, and she also works as a student employee in Chase Hall, supporting student involvement and diversity. She is known for being unfailingly responsible and uplifting.

"She is the quintessential product of the work we do in Chase Hall," Meixner said. "We don't necessarily want to graduate the next politicians. It's not hierarchical or positional for us. We're looking for students to graduate with a deep awareness of themselves and how they can contribute positive change. Emy has harnessed that kind of energy in herself and is by example helping others do the same."

## "FIND IT, RAISE IT, PLACE IT"

*The Office of Student Involvement and Leadership helps students lead the way to making a difference*

A typical month in the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership (OSIL) is never typical. Take a recent 30-day period. Campus MovieFest arrived with equipment for 50 students to write, direct, film, edit, and screen (with a red carpet event, no less) their original screenplays, with the chance of winning a spot on The History Channel. A group of students and faculty headed to Louisiana to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina for an alternative Spring Break. Another group headed to Gainesville to brainstorm about homeless issues at the Florida Student Civic Engagement Conference. Peer facilitators hosted a leadership workshop. Student government convened. WPRK broadcast without a hitch. *The Sandspur* made it to press on time. And All Campus Events' "Wickit Wednesday" Coffee House drew a crowd.

"Everything that comes out of our office is peer led," said Cara Meixner, director of student involvement and leadership. "We offer guidance. Our role is to spark students' interest in leadership, service, and peer education. But the students take it from there; they have full ownership." Meixner, assistant directors Becca Hickam and Dan Seeger, and two graduate students provide advising, coaching, and networking opportunities, serving as catalysts for community action. They also teach credit-bearing courses in the College's developing leadership curriculum, where students apply theory to practice in the Winter Park and Orlando communities.

Peer education is the core of OSIL's mix, with the Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) team as the model. Composed of 15 students who develop programs and workshops to help other students create a mission for their lives through service, leadership, and involvement, the LEAD team emulates the office's approach to student empowerment. "Our motto is about discovering your own unique voice: 'Find it, raise it, place it,'" Hickam said. "The LEAD team helps other students discover who they are and find ways to bring their voices into local and global contexts." These student leaders have no common background and most are not interested in political careers. They are motivated by the experience itself. "The LEAD team is a unique group on campus—we are individuals from every group, niche, and corner of Rollins," said Thomas Mullett '06. "We come together for a common purpose. We come together to be positive role models."

Media is the other centerpiece of the office, which oversees *The Sandspur* newspaper and WPRK, one of the oldest campus radio stations in the country. With campus and community support, students run the station 100 percent, 24 hours a day, making it the ultimate leadership learning laboratory.

"Our goal is to give students a wide range of experiences so that they know where they're headed and why," Meixner said. "They learn leadership by doing it. We encourage them to question the answers. It's all a process."

CHIP WESTON '70



Karl Riecken '07  
and Cara Meixner





# ROLLINS RELIEF BRINGS HOPE, HELP TO HURRICANE KATRINA VICTIMS



"Not many people would volunteer their time and effort to help strangers. You don't realize how wonderful people are until you have a tragedy."

—Anthony Romano  
Hurricane Katrina Victim

With tears filling his eyes, Anthony Romano looked on as volunteers from the Rollins community carried pieces of his shattered life out of his home. The items, which had been submerged in floodwaters for two weeks following Hurricane Katrina and left to mildew for six months, were being placed into a huge trash pile in front of the home in Violet, Louisiana that Anthony and his wife, Pat, had shared for 21 years. Remarkably, as if through divine intervention, among the few things found undamaged were photos of the couple's 2-year-old grandson who had passed away just months before the hurricane. Holding a small box of precious salvaged items, Romano could not hold back the tears as he talked about the special people who had been working diligently on his home for two days. "Not many people would volunteer their time and effort to help strangers. You don't realize how wonderful people are until you have a tragedy. God bless these people for coming here to help."

The Romanos, like so many other families, are starting over after Hurricane Katrina. And thanks to the help of strangers, families are able to hold on to hope for their future.

When Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast in August of last year, members of the Rollins community wanted to do something more than just send money and prayers. Steve Miller '09 was so affected by what he saw on television that he immediately decided the College needed to organize an effort to send people to help. Six months later, Miller and members of the campus organization he created, Rollins Relief, headed for the Gulf Coast over Spring Break to work with Habitat for Humanity to help rebuild lives.

The group of 13 (including 10 students, two staff members, and one professor), ranging in age from 19 to 58, stayed in a tent city run by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and worked in homes in St. Bernard Parish, one of New Orleans' most devastated areas. "When we got there, what we saw was overwhelming," said Micki Meyer, director of

community engagement. "I remembered thinking there was no hope. And then you work in a house, and you see in one day what you can do, and then you realize...there is hope."

Over five days, the group gutted and emptied three homes that were flooded when levees broke following the storm. At night, they reflected on their day and ate dinner with an estimated 1,200 college students from across the United States who also spent their Spring Break volunteering in the area. Some nights, they did a little sightseeing, and other nights, they turned in early. "With each day that passed, the bond among the group grew stronger," said Nicole Shaffer '06HH.

On day two of the trip, Miller reflected in his journal, "Interesting day...words don't really do justice to the devastation...its scope and magnitude are far understated and under-perceived. Only work can rebuild the city, but only pride can rebuild the spirit."

"The biggest thing I learned on the trip is that everything is temporary except for your relationships and your family," said Jennifer Sperber '08HH. "Material things can easily be washed away."

The trip represented the inaugural community service effort for Rollins Relief, which is committed to helping victims of global catastrophes. Miller looks forward to additional Rollins trips to the Gulf Coast in May. "It's so exciting to be part of a team that is so enthusiastic," he said. "It's amazing to see the things you can accomplish collectively, and we definitely saw that during our time in New Orleans."

The footprints left by this group of special volunteers represent a cleaning and rebuilding effort larger than one can imagine and new hope for the residents of this devastated area. With a broad smile and a twinkle in his eye, Miller looked into the future: "Twenty years from now, I hope to travel to New Orleans during a vacation with my family and share that I was part of the effort that brought this place back to its original splendor." ■

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
JENI FLYNN HATTER









Kim Moorehouse '06HH (front) and Associate Professor of Art Rachel Simmons work on a mural with children at Grand Avenue Elementary School

JUDY WATSON TRACY

*Generations are defined by what they're perceived to consider most important.*

*The Me Generation was obvious.*

*Generation X was equated with "whatever."*

*Today's generation of students is making it something unexpected: They want to change the world, one person at a time. The concept behind this collective urge is called community engagement and it's transforming the way students learn, the way they spend their time and money, and the way they look at their future.*

*Most colleges have responded to students' zeal for community engagement by offering opportunities for service learning and involvement in civic issues. According to a recent survey by Campus Compact, 36 percent of college students across the country participate in service. The time these students spend volunteering is worth more than \$4 billion to the communities they serve.*

*Rollins is doing more than following this national trend, however. It is leading the way, with innovative programs that make service as integral to education as history, mathematics, or literature.*

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

## When education serves its highest purpose

### WHY SERVICE AND WHY NOW?

Call it the confluence of idealistic multitaskers with an urgent global need, but this millennial generation is coming of age at the exact moment their brand of passionate citizenship is needed most. Dean of the Faculty Roger Casey believes their view is universal—to change the world—but their approach is very personal. “If you ask a group of 18-year-olds to start a letter-writing campaign about adult literacy, you’d get one person,” he said. “If you say I need a dozen people to teach 60-year-olds to read, you’d have to turn people away. They have a deep commitment to changing the world, but they want to do it as individuals, face-to-face.”

Cara Meixner, director of student involvement and leadership, said that millennial students have been required to volunteer since they were in middle school, as preparation for higher education. But service at Rollins has deeper implications, both for the student and for the community receiving the service. “It is not just about doing community work or serving lunch in a soup kitchen. It’s about being an advocate, an activist for the issues involved. We challenge them to have a deep understanding of community and a pragmatic view of how they can eradicate the problems facing that community.”

“We make a serious mistake if we don’t think that every single person we meet and every interaction is an opportunity for a transforming educational experience. Every moment is a teaching moment.”

—Roger Casey, Dean of the Faculty

### IS THERE COURSE CREDIT FOR THAT?

Community engagement has several components, but service learning and community service are the areas garnering the most attention today. Since this generation does not confine education to four walls and a classroom, experiential learning is popular. Most of these experiences are off campus. For instance, students may collect socks and shampoo

for the homeless and join volunteers at The Ripple Effect in distributing them on a Saturday morning. Or they may mend a broken fence at a domestic violence shelter. Or they may man water stations at Relay for Life. A few hours here and there may seem like paltry assistance for huge issues like homelessness and cancer research, but based on its national survey, Campus Compact estimates that the value of each student’s time is \$2,247 annually.

The educational benefit cannot be underestimated either. “We make a serious mistake if we don’t think that every single person we meet and every interaction is an opportunity for a transforming educational experience,” Casey said. “Every moment is a teaching moment.”

Taking that a step further is building service into the curriculum, maximizing the needs of community partners. Doing so connects service to course content, said Micki Meyer, who is director of community engagement and the lead in promoting service learning in every department. Her first step is integrating it into the Rollins College Conference (RCC) seminar. Every first-year student enrolls in RCC, which is a semester-long, discussion-driven course on a specific topic. There were 34 RCC courses in the fall, ranging from *Environmental Politics* to *History of Comic Books*. Next year during

orientation, all first-year students will have at least a one-day service experience related to their RCC topics. The environmental studies group may go on a Save the Manatee excursion, while the comic book class might present a Superman story hour to sick kids at an Orlando hospital.

“We hope this initial contact will be the spark that brings them back to serve throughout their years at Rollins,” Meyer said.

“In true service learning, the act is important, but the processing is what separates it from volunteering. Reflecting on the issues is what brings about social change.”

—Micki Meyer  
Director of Community Engagement

JUDY WATSON TRACY





Doug Little, who coordinates RCC, said professors are striving to incorporate service into their courses. An extra hour a week is built into the schedule to make it easier and his office prepares a list of service sites matched to the topics. "We are trying to be creative about the kinds of activities that will have a personal impact on the students and on the organizations they'll serve. We would like this to be the start of lifelong service."

### ISN'T IT JUST FORCED VOLUNTEERISM?

The old story that if you give a man a fish, he eats for today, but if you teach a man to fish he eats every day captures the spirit of community engagement. Volunteerism meets an immediate need, but doesn't address the reason why the need exists in the first place. Service meets a need but also seeks to eradicate the root cause of the need.

"In true service learning, the act is important, but the processing is what separates it from volunteering," Meyer said. "Reflecting on the issues is what brings about social change."

Students are required to write essays or keep a journal to help them make sense of their service experience and to work out solutions. "We press and challenge students. Group discussion and journaling makes it all click and makes it more than just an activity," Meixner said. "If we didn't take that time they would think, 'Okay, I'm glad I gave back to the community, big deal. What difference did it make?'"

A single service-learning course made a big difference for several Rollins students. After taking *Hunger and Homelessness*, a class that culminates in students spending a day as street homeless (even sleeping in a shelter), Emy Cardoza '06 and her classmates were shaken up. "It was a disturbing experience, but talking about it made others on campus aware of homeless issues," she said. "It has been interesting to see how this one class has served as a catalyst. I was changed as an individual by the experience. I told 20 people. They told 20 people. Now there are more and more students involved in helping at the Coalition for the Homeless."

In the end, what difference it made might never be known, but that doesn't make the effort any less important. "My goal is to make the world a better place," Casey said. "We can count hours of service and that may help in the accreditation reaffirmation process, but it doesn't tell us much. Maybe we had an impact on only one person, but that one person goes on to head the World Health Organization. Have we done our job?" ■

Steve Miller '09

### STEVE MILLER '09: BORN LEADER

At the age of 2, he was already reading. By first grade, he had figured out how to use a computer to start a weekly class newspaper. By the age of 14, he had started his own Web-design company and created a Web site that garnered national attention from *TIME* magazine and *Consumer Reports*. There's no question that Steve Miller '09 was destined to be a leader.

A 2005 graduate of Elyria High School in Ohio, Miller was the first teenager ever to be appointed to the local YMCA Board of Trustees. While in high school, he worked with professionals in the Leadership Lorain County Program. In his hometown of Elyria, he helped start a Youth Leadership Institute that encourages kids to prepare themselves for college.

Miller, who chose Rollins over West Point, is one of Rollins' inaugural Cornell Scholars—a group of stellar students who receive full academic scholarships to the College. In less than a year, he has established himself as a campus leader by starting Rollins Relief, a Rollins organiza-

tion that responds to global catastrophes. The group recently made a trip to New Orleans over Spring Break to work with Habitat for Humanity to gut homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina. His return flight hadn't even landed back in Orlando before Miller started talking about the need for another community-service trip to the Gulf Coast.

"Steve is a motivator and collaborator," said Micki Meyer, director of community engagement. "He is gifted at understanding the big picture and works hard at motivating others to get connected and engaged in the community. People often comment that they cannot believe that he is only a first-year student. He is a role model and an unbelievable asset to the Rollins family."

So, what will life after Rollins hold for Miller? Work in politics, law, business...maybe all three, he said. "Whatever I do, I know I want to be a person who sets a good example and achieves things through working hard."

—Jeni Flynn Hatter

CHIP WESTON '70

## DAVID LORD '69 '70MBA: WALKING THE TALK

David Lord is switching careers. After 30 years in administrative positions at Rollins and Colorado College, he is leaving higher education this summer to become director of development for The Griffis Group, a real estate investment and development company in Colorado Springs.

"I'm hoping as I now go out into the business world that I can 'walk the talk,'" Lord said with an enthusiasm that those who know him would recognize. "I've taught students that there's more than the bottom line to business. You have to go out in the community and help solve problems. Now, it's my turn to try."

The Michigan native graduated from Rollins College as a political science major in 1969, earned an MBA at the Crummer Graduate School of Business immediately afterward, then worked 10 years at Ithaca College in administrative positions before joining Rollins in the 1980s as associate vice president for business services. He left Rollins in 1986 to take a similar position at Colorado College.

"Getting out of the classroom" has become a personal theme for Lord, who has known Rollins as a student, alumnus, employee, and trustee. "As a student, I got as much from my experience outside the classroom as in it. I had some great experiences that taught me a lot about leadership, especially as manager for the sports teams, where I learned so much just by being around some really amazing coaches."

Now, Lord wants to ensure that Rollins students are given the chance to make a difference. He and his siblings run family foundations that underwrite several leadership and community-service programs at Rollins. One is the Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) program, which offers leadership courses and the opportunity for students to take their academic training into the community-service sector and implement it in the real

world. Other Rollins programs funded by the Lord family foundations, including the Community Engagement Initiative and the Winter Park Fellows, provide opportunities for students to work as interns in the public sector.

"You can't just teach leadership by expounding theory," Lord said. "You have to give students the opportunity to go out into community organizations and work on projects. All leaders need to learn how to help others."



Lord credits his mother, Rhoda Newberry Reed, with teaching him the importance of helping others. "I'm fortunate that my mother brought me up with her values," he said. "She always had a great love for the arts, and for the role of healthcare, hospitals, and nurses."

Last year, Lord received two awards from Colorado College: the 2005 Colorado College Sustainability Award, for his works on projects to make the campus greener; and the Boettcher Lifetime Achievement Award in Administration.

Now, he is looking forward to opportunities in his new career to increase sustainability and affordable housing on the Front Range, the eastern slope of the Rockies that includes Denver and Colorado Springs.

"You can't just teach leadership by expounding theory. You have to give students the opportunity to go out into community organizations and work on projects. All leaders need to learn how to help others."

—David Lord '69 '70MBA

—Warren Miller '90MBA



Jenna Heckman '07 and Cat McConnell '07 at a carnival at Rollins partner school Fern Creek Elementary



## IGNITING AN ENGAGED CAMPUS

*The Office of Community Engagement fosters service and active citizenship*

Most people who attended college prior to the turn of the millennium have no idea what it means to have an “engaged campus.” Rollins is at the forefront of the movement toward integrating service and active citizenship into its campus life and curriculum. In collaboration with numerous faculty, staff, and students, the Office of Community Engagement serves as a center of involvement on campus, fostering occasions

engagement. “They are able to analyze, apply, and reflect on the interconnections between their coursework and experience with the community. Service learning transforms our students’ lives by allowing them the opportunity to dig deeper in understanding how communities work, creating a sense of ownership and passion for a life of activism and involvement.”

Meyer herself teaches a serving-learning course called *Pathways to College*, in which Rollins students work with children from Fern Creek Elementary School, many of whom live in poverty. Her students teach and mentor the children through hands-on lessons focused on leadership development, youth citizenship, goal setting, and college awareness. This spring, Rollins hosted Pathways to College Awareness Day, which brought 120 Fern Creek children to campus to participate in a day of college classes and campus life.

“Many of the children come from homes where college isn’t discussed,” Meyer said. “But they come to Rollins and eat in the cafeteria, see the residence halls, and sit in on a class and that sparks something in them that they’ll never forget. Nothing would give me more joy than, eight years from now, to welcome Fern Creek students into the Rollins community.”

Instead of being an obligation on a college to-do list, service is actually one of the reasons some students choose to enroll at Rollins. “Many students are stepping up to the plate and getting involved,” Meyer said. “The numbers have doubled for students wanting to take an intersession course with a service-learning component. We’re finding that more and more students are passionate about become active citizens and really longing to be part of a community-engagement experience.”


“Service learning transforms our students’ lives by allowing them the opportunity to dig deeper in understanding how communities work, creating a sense of ownership and passion for a life of activism and involvement.”

—Micki Meyer  
Director of Community  
Engagement

for students to connect, engage, and get involved in creating positive change in their communities.

Rollins is a leader in weaving service learning into the classroom, where opportunities abound—from anthropology students collecting oral histories from African American senior citizens, to students in *Death and Dying* working with terminally ill children through Give Kids the World, to art history students painting history murals in low-income communities, to Spanish students teaching Junior Achievement lessons in Spanish-speaking classrooms.

“Students really respond to learning when it’s outside the classroom because they are actively involved,” said Micki Meyer, director of community

A photograph of two women standing in front of a large bookshelf. The woman on the right is wearing a yellow baseball cap and a black and white striped shirt. The woman on the left is wearing a white t-shirt with a floral design.

Micki Meyer (r) and Salina Collins, the 5th-grader she mentors at Rollins partner school Fern Creek Elementary





“Helping others is something that I have to do. And no matter how much I do, it’s never enough. The issues are just so big. Once you build a bridge of humanity with those less fortunate, it’s hard to say they shouldn’t have the same opportunities you do.”

—Amit Karr '07

JENI FLYNN HATTER



## AMIT KARR '07: A NEW KIND OF WEEKEND WARRIOR

The typical college weekend—sleep in, mess around, party late—just doesn’t work for Amit Karr '07. Every Saturday morning by 7:00, Karr is off to The Ripple Effect, where he serves meals to homeless people for two hours in downtown Orlando. Then on to Give Kids the World or Habitat for Humanity or to collect socks and tote bags for The Ripple Effect, making sure no homeless person is without the necessities. He never misses a weekend. “It’s something that I have to do,” he said. “And no matter how much I do, it’s never enough. The issues are just so big.”

A double major in religion and psychology who grew up in New Jersey and Saudi Arabia and attended boarding school in Tennessee, Karr is the son of Indian immigrants. Part of his passion for serving others stems from visiting extended family in India, where poverty is hardly a remote concept. “My parents opened my eyes to a world that was very different from mine,” he said. “I have relatives who are very impoverished. To see their lives sparked the idea that something needs to be done. Once you build a bridge of humanity with those less fortunate, it’s hard to say they shouldn’t have the same opportunities as you do.”

Travel to India may have sparked his compassion, but it was a class at Rollins that was his call to action. His first-year seminar (RCC) course had a service-learning component, which resulted in Karr’s working at a support center for teenage

mothers. That led to helping stock their kitchens and nurseries. That led to the intercession course *Hunger and Homelessness*, an experiential-learning class where students spend the night in a homeless shelter, live on \$5 a day, and come to truly understand the issues involved in poverty. “Once you get out of class, it’s easy to say ‘I’ll do it later,’” Karr said. “Some of us didn’t want to lose the impact the course had on us. That’s how we got involved in The Ripple Effect.”

Cara Meixner, director of student involvement and leadership, said Karr’s commitment to helping others extends way beyond the weekend, though. “He organized Holiday FunFest, which brought children from foster homes and orphanages to campus for a day with Santa Claus, presents, and fun,” she said. “He worked with other students to start an after-school mentoring program in west Winter Park, helping kids with their homework. He doesn’t necessarily have a title, but he’s committed to getting the job done.”

The next challenge for Karr, who also serves on the LEAD (Leadership Education and Development) team, is acting as community-engagement liaison, researching ways professors can incorporate service learning into each of the 34 RCC courses offered next year. “I don’t need to know that other people know who’s doing the work,” he said. “The satisfaction is the job, not the recognition.”

CHIP WESTON '70



Amit Karr '07





For more information about  
The Ripple Effect, visit  
[www.rippleeffectinfo.org](http://www.rippleeffectinfo.org)



Ripple Effect Executive Director  
Bob Decker '96 '99MA (l)





# THE RIPPLE EFFECT

## OF HELPING OTHERS

Amit Karr '07 can't wait for Saturday mornings. Not because it's the weekend, but because that's when he wakes up at the crack of dawn and heads to downtown Orlando to help feed the homeless. It's the highlight of his week. "Coming out here and talking with a couple of people for a little while means the world to them," Karr said. "I feel a lot more connected to the people I meet with here every Saturday than those I encounter through my daily interactions. There is a true sense of humanity, care, and trust here."

An estimated 9,000 people in Central Florida wake up every day only to worry about where they will get their next meal and where they will sleep that night. In 1990, when Kelly Kilpatrick '99 '02MA discovered just how many homeless people were struggling in the area, she started distributing peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to them in downtown Orlando on Saturdays. "I believed that one person could make a difference in this world," Kilpatrick said. "I decided it was my responsibility to give back and see what happened."

What happened was beyond her wildest dreams. What started with a few people coming out for food soon turned into hundreds—and "The Ripple Effect" was formed. "When you give and pour goodness onto others, you are affecting lives, and then things continue to happen beyond you," Kilpatrick said.

That same "ripple effect" has applied to the number of volunteers, which now averages 20 to 30 per week—among them a group of Rollins students, faculty, and staff who joined in the effort this spring. "We realized our students gravitated toward this grassroots effort and that inspired them to know that they do have the power to make an impact on a community," said Micki Meyer, director of community engagement. "This experience also gives students an opportunity to interact with people and find out why they live in poverty. Once you talk with them and learn their stories, it truly helps you understand how communities work and what leads to homelessness."

"Thank you," "God bless you," and "Have a great day" are common remarks heard from the homeless as they are handed their food after waiting patiently in a long line, sometimes for up to an hour. Volunteers distribute food items such as bologna and cheese sandwiches, granola bars, juice, bagels with cream cheese, cookies, and bananas, as well as clothing. "I am always amazed that even though they are homeless and hungry, they only take as much food as

they can eat," Karr said. "We have extra food and clothing every week."

The Ripple Effect also provides homeless people with programs to help them get back on their feet. "We offer community voice mail, which allows potential employers to leave messages for individuals," said Bob Decker '96 '99MA, executive director of the program. "This helps take the stigma away from being homeless." The organization also provides assistance with housing, mental health counseling, and obtaining identification. "We try to fill in the gaps where there are no services," Decker said.

Students in Assistant Professor of Anthropology Rachel Newcomb's course *Anthropology and Global Problem Solving* volunteer at The Ripple Effect to examine the efforts of local organizations to solve the problem of homelessness. "The Ripple Effect is an important piece of the puzzle," Newcomb said. "The more people who get involved, the closer we'll come to solving the problem of homelessness."

The Ripple Effect is making a profound and lasting impact on both the Central Florida community and students at Rollins. According to Meyer, Rollins students who volunteer during the Saturday morning meal outreach are so deeply moved and affected that many of them are forever changed. Some have commented that they spend the rest of the day sharing with others and reflecting on their experience. "Ripple has allowed them to identify their passion in serving the homeless and has fostered a wonderful opportunity for them to engage in their 'next step' in serving as advocates for people living in poverty," Meyer said.

Experiences with Ripple and other local agencies that serve the homeless inspired a group of students to create a campus-based Hunger and Homeless organization this year. "This will bring awareness to both the campus and the Central Florida community," Meyer said. "It will enable the Rollins community to get involved with issues of hunger, homelessness, and human rights at the grassroots level, including lobbying state government for laws and policies for those who live in poverty."

"Homelessness is something most communities try to keep out of sight," said Allison Starnes '07, one of Newcomb's students. "You don't realize how bad it is until you see it. Working with Ripple Effect has been a life-changing opportunity and I will continue to go back long after the class is over." ■



"I believed that one person could make a difference in this world. I decided it was my responsibility to give back and see what happened."

—Kelly Kilpatrick '99 '02MA  
Founder, The Ripple Effect

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
JENI FLYNN HATTER



## “If you could have dinner with anyone living or dead, whom would you choose and why?”

### Mary Goodall Lancey '61

rodmarel@nlis.net



Once an English major, always an English major. My dream dinner partner would be William Shakespeare. Numerous references to current events of the 16th and 17th centuries embellish his plays. If the theatre audiences did not get the point, events of the day were reinforced in “jigs,” which followed the actual plays. Old Will could be considered the CNN of his day. It would be fun to compare the 1599 Irish Rebellion against England

with the United States' occupation of Afghanistan and Iraq. What would the Bard say about the 21st-century anxiety over nuclear threats from North Korea and Iran? Would he see similarities to the 1588 Spanish Armada and the 1598 panic over an invasion that did not take place? Would Shakespeare find the events of 1066 and 9/11 similar?

### Bert Roper '48

beroper@iag.net



What a joy it would be to hear Jesus bless a meal in his native language. A conversation at dinner would give me an opportunity to ask him about how Aramaic syntax gave meanings to his words that might be different from the way we perceive them in our English translations. What did he really say when he talked about “the beautiful attitudes?” Did he say “poor” in spirit or “home” with spirit? Did he really distinguish between a word as a concept, as set in a mind for action, and as describing an action taken? Would this help us understand conditional and unconditional love? If your neighbor is anyone physically or mentally near, are you really your own neighbor? Did he say “love your neighbor as your self” or “love your neighbor as your napsha”? To be with Jesus as a friend in back-and-forth conversation would be the best!

### Michael Cushing '92

mcdcushing@gmail.com



I would choose my parents because we would sit and talk for hours about their new grandchild and daughter-in-law that they never met, about how I grew up in my twenties and how they continued to nudge me in the right direction even after they were gone. I'd mention

how I understand all those long, loving, stupid looks they once gave me, now that I have a child, and how lucky I was to have them as parents. Most of all, I would catch them up on all the mistakes that led me to where I am now, and how happy I am. We would talk about what is really important in life, what they wish they would have done differently, what things they miss most, and what it's like to stop being a part of this world. Most of all, we would talk about how fragile life really is and how we should never take anyone close to us for granted. I would do anything for that dinner. In the end, I guess I would ramble on about so many, many things that I don't know if I could say goodbye after dinner.

### Dana Robins Ivey '63

driveynyc@aol.com



I would love to have dinner with Nefertiti. I am interested in Ancient Egypt, and Nefertiti's disappearance in Akhenaten's reign is still a mystery. I'd like to know exactly what happened. I'd like to ask her exactly whose son Tutankhamon was, what Akhenaten was like, and why he is portrayed physically so weirdly.

#### QUESTION FOR THE NEXT ISSUE:

**“If you could go back in time and relive any moment at Rollins exactly as it happened, what would it be and why?”**

**We want to hear from you!** Please e-mail or mail your answer (150 words maximum) and a photograph of yourself (digital photos must be in jpg format, minimum 300 dpi) to the Office of Alumni Relations at [ljcole@rollins.edu](mailto:ljcole@rollins.edu) or 1000 Holt Avenue - 2736, Winter Park, FL 32789. **Deadline: Friday, July 14, 2006.**

*Note: Rollins reserves all editorial rights and final decisions for inclusion of Q&A submissions.*

Rollins College is proud of its alumni, who are actively contributing to the health, wealth, productivity, harmony, spiritual guidance, and hope of citizens throughout the world. To help spread the good news, each issue of the *Rollins Alumni Record* features "Alumni of Note." If you know of any alumni who should be spotlighted, please contact the Alumni Relations office at 1-800-799-ALUM or e-mail us at [alumni@rollins.edu](mailto:alumni@rollins.edu).

## Al Weiss '81MBA

**Cinderella Story** ■ Like most 16-year-olds, Al Weiss wanted a car. His parents weren't planning to buy it for him (his dad was a minister, his mom a teacher) and he knew that if he wanted to drive around Orlando, he'd have to get a job. So he worked the window at McDonald's, earned \$1.75 an hour, and bought himself an English Ford for \$800. Already thinking like the businessman he would become, Weiss paid off the Ford and upgraded—to a Grand Torino. He even bought himself an acre of Florida land for \$4,000 that same year. By age 17, Weiss was managing kids his own age at McDonald's, and already his leadership skills were shining. "I'd try to make it fun by saying... 'Let's try to set a sales record this hour,'" he told *Orlando Magazine* last year.

While Weiss enjoyed his time working under the Golden Arches, there was another company just getting its Florida start nearby. Disneyland had been a California vacation spot for almost 20 years when the Disney company opened its Florida park in 1971, and though he didn't know it at the time, Weiss made a major career move when he left McDonald's in 1972 to accept a job at Walt Disney World collecting money from arcades and registers in the Magic Kingdom. Three months later, he was promoted to vault teller—Weiss was 18 years old and handling millions of dollars in cash and checks every night. Throughout his early years with Disney, he also worked to earn a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Central Florida and an MBA from Rollins' Crummer Graduate School of Business.

Weiss moved through Disney's ranks quickly, holding positions in accounting and finance, and expanding his knowledge of the Disney company with every step. "In my first 22 years at Disney," he told *Orlando Magazine*, "I had 20 different jobs."

Good thing he got all that experience. In 1994, at the age of 40, Weiss was named president of the Walt Disney World Resort. Just running the 47 square miles that make up the resort (theme



parks, water parks, hotels, golf courses, and more) and overseeing the company's 38,000 "Cast Members" would have been plenty to juggle at the time, but Weiss set out to make his company bigger and better. Under his leadership, the No. 1 vacation spot in the world opened Disney's Animal Kingdom and created Disney Cruise Line. Last year, Weiss was promoted yet again—to president of World-wide Operations for Walt Disney Parks and Resorts, overseeing the company's vacation destinations in Orlando, Anaheim, Hong Kong, and Paris.

Weiss's role at Disney and his community influence (he's a member of several Florida-based boards, including the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission, the University of Central Florida Foundation, the UCF Board of Trustees, Give Kids the World, the Minority/Women Business Enterprise Alliance, and the Florida Council of 100/Education Task Force) has

earned him more titles. *Florida Trend* named him one of 174 Influential Floridians in 2004; *Orlando Magazine* named him one of Orlando's 50 Most Powerful People; and in January, the *Orlando Sentinel* gave Weiss the No. 4 spot on their list of 25 Most Powerful People in Central Florida.

With all that power, more than three decades of business experience, and a top position at Disney, nowadays Weiss can have any car he wants. But for him, success has never been about material prosperity. It's about creating an unparalleled experience for Disney guests and employees, pushing the company's creativity to new heights, and, most important of all, striking a healthy balance among his career, faith, and family. (He regularly attended Rollins basketball and softball games to cheer on daughter **Randi '05 '06MBA**.) "I make sure to honor my priorities," Weiss said. "I believe the process of building a life is more important than any accomplishment or destination."

—Maureen Harmon



## Tom Kuntz '78

**A Good Investment** ■ Tom Kuntz began his career at SunTrust Bank by accident. One day in his senior year at Rollins, he had a brief conversation with a College vice president for whom his girlfriend (and future wife) was babysitting. The VP told Kuntz he knew someone at SunTrust, promised to make a call, and, well, the rest just fell into place. Sort of. When Kuntz arrived at the bank shortly thereafter to let them know when he could start working, they were taken by surprise. Turned out the VP had never placed the call (which Kuntz didn't learn until later), but when an eager young Rollins grad showed up unannounced and aggressive enough to simply tell the hiring manager when he would start working, the company thought he'd be a good investment.

Kuntz remembers the exact date he began working at SunTrust as a management associate: June 26, 1978. He had just graduated from Rollins and went to work that day with an empty briefcase in hand, figuring that's what someone with a job ought to have. He didn't think the "work thing" would turn out to be much fun, but he promised himself he'd stay with it for at least a year.

This June 26th, Kuntz will celebrate 28 years with the company—and his briefcase is overflowing these days. But that doesn't mean you'll find him sitting in his office staring at a computer screen. "I do my job," he said, "by not being in the office." As president, CEO, and chairman of SunTrust Bank, Florida, Kuntz is constantly on the move visiting clients and the nearly 500 branches throughout the state that report to him. He wants them to know that the bank is right there when it's needed.

Throughout his career, Kuntz has made a number of moves within the SunTrust organization, from that first management associate

position to working in the International Division watching over the bank's interests in Europe and the Far East. He went from senior vice president to senior executive vice president to president and COO of the Tampa bank to president and COO and then chairman and CEO of SunTrust Bank, South Florida—promotions earned mostly within the span of a decade. In January of 2005, he was named president and CEO of SunTrust, responsible for the entire state of Florida, and six months later, he added Chairman of SunTrust, Florida to his growing list of titles.

Kuntz's titles extend beyond business. He's husband to college sweetheart Carol (Schubert) '78 and dad to son Jeff and twin girls Megan and Missy. Those two jobs are a priority for Kuntz; in fact, one of his life goals is taking his son to a baseball game at every Major League ballpark in the country (he's halfway there). Also important to Kuntz are his civic responsibilities. He is currently the vice chairman-elect of the Enterprise Florida board of directors and a member of the Florida Chamber of Commerce board of directors, the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Orlando Council of Governors, the Florida Council of 100, and the Florida Chapter of the Young Presidents' Organization. He takes special pride in serving on the Rollins College Board of Trustees. It's all in keeping with his advice to his employees and fellow bankers: "When you build your community," he tells them, "you build your bank." —*Maureen Harmon*



## Karen Garrison '83HH

**Woman in a Mail World** ■ At first, Karen Garrison didn't think about going to college. "We were having too much fun going to the moon," she said. It was 1967, and Garrison skipped higher ed to head to Satellite Beach, Florida, from her home in Virginia, but she wasn't looking for Spring Break fun. Instead, she went to work in the purchasing department of Symetrics Industries, a defense contractor



specializing in telemetry radar tracking—a technology that allowed the U.S. to stay in contact with astronauts and satellites. There, Garrison also gained experience in personnel and finance, eventually becoming a corporate officer.

Within the next decade, the U.S. had put a man on the moon and Garrison was ready to move on. In 1978, she accepted a job at Dictaphone, a 100-year-old company known for its transcription and dictation equipment and services. The following year, the company was purchased by Pitney Bowes, and Garrison found herself rising through management positions in the world of dictation and mail communications. Her real climb began when she decided to pursue a college degree. At the encouragement of her boss, she began taking classes at Rollins' Patrick Air Force Base branch. In 1983, with her Rollins accounting degree in hand, she made a huge jump within the company—to controller, where she worked closely with factory operations.

Outside of work, when she wasn't spending time with her husband and two daughters, the ambitious Garrison continued her education, becoming the first woman to graduate from Florida Institute of Technology with an executive MBA degree. She then taught as an adjunct professor at both FIT and Rollins' Patrick Branch.

In 1990, Garrison moved to Pitney Bowes corporate headquarters to become worldwide controller, then CFO, before returning to operations to run the company's service organization. In 1997, she moved to corporate administration and real estate, where she saved the company \$10 million in just seven months. Soon, she was named VP of outsourcing operations.

Ten promotions and 20 years after launching her career with Pitney Bowes, Garrison got the opportunity to run her own business within the company when she was named president of Pitney Bowes Business Services. Within three years, the woman who started her business career without a degree had increased revenues from \$350 million to \$1.1 billion and added 5,000 employees to the growing division.

Now retired, Garrison loves being able to spend more time with her grandchildren, but she continues to share her business know-how by serving on corporate boards. Earlier this year, she talked to a group of Rollins students about her career. She told them about her mentors: Ed Broome, Symetrics president; Cliff Peterson, Dictaphone VP of operations; and Marc Breslawsky, Dictaphone president and Pitney Bowes vice chairman. A student asked why all her mentors were men. Garrison's answer was simple. "Because they had the jobs that I wanted." And she went out and got them. —*Maureen Harmon*

## Tom McEvoy '80 '85MBA

**Corporate Sprinter** ■ Tom McEvoy has corporate blood. His grandfather was an executive with Eastman Kodak. Dad was a sales executive, and later, a business owner. McEvoy's brother is an exec, too—for a Fortune 500 company. For a brief instant, McEvoy thought maybe he'd do something else; maybe he'd become a lawyer. But for someone you can actually hear smiling over the phone and who uses terms like "can-do approach," "results driven," and teamwork" (and means what he says), the world of law wasn't in the cards. This guy was born for business.

McEvoy pursued a degree in accounting at Rollins and went on to earn his MBA from the Crummer Graduate School of Business. He started his career in the payroll department at Sprint, but with his strongest office relationships being with his counting machine and computer, it didn't take him long to figure out that he didn't want to be in some office crunching numbers. When he became head of service operations for business installations, he found he had a knack—and a love—for dealing directly with customers. Management recognized this and soon put him in a leadership role.

McEvoy will admit he has performance expectations for his employees. He is "results driven," after all, and he can't do much without a team. Still, his leadership style welcomes change. He remembers the disapproving stares he got from his employees during a holiday celebration at a local café after mentioning he had once called an executive at midnight.

"They thought: This guy is a madman," McEvoy said. "He expects his people on call 24 hours." McEvoy had had no inten-

tion of speaking with the executive at such an hour—he had simply wanted to leave him a message. But he learned something from this reaction: He needed to respect his employees' time away from the office.

It's that ability to adjust to the employees'—and his customers'—needs that has helped push McEvoy up Sprint's corporate ladder. During his 26-year career, he has held a variety of positions throughout the Sprint company, including payroll manager, operating budget manager, director of operations, director of consumer markets, and VP of sales and customer care. He even worked in marketing and advertising for a bit. By 2000, he landed a presidential position and led a team of 6,000 employees serving 5 million consumer lines as president of LTD Consumer Solutions, part of Sprint's local telecommunications division in Kansas City. He went on to become president of Sprint Enterprise Business Markets, providing sales, marketing, and service to 4,000 top U.S. companies and the U.S. government.

In April 2006, McEvoy was inducted into the Crummer School Alumni Hall of Fame and addressed Crummer graduates at their commencement. The next month, he climbed yet one more rung of the corporate ladder when he became president of business markets for Sprint's latest spin-off, EMBARQ, Sprint Nextel's local communications company—the fifth-largest local communications company in the country. How's that for "results"?—*Maureen Harmon*



## Joe Shorin '84

### Protecting Land in the Courtroom ■

When Joe Shorin was 9 years old, he wrote a poem about an oak tree that was dying. The air was too polluted for its survival. Developments were encroaching on its root system. It was being cut apart, piece

by piece, for industry. Even at 9, Shorin knew the environment was facing a harsh battle. He saw the effects of environmental carelessness every day from his home near the banks of Manhasset Bay—then one of America's most polluted waterways—in Great Neck, New York.

By the time Shorin was ready for college, his concern for environmental issues had spread beyond old oaks to the world at large. He chose Rollins for its environmental studies program and even had plans to run for political office someday. His two dreams met at the U.S. House of Representatives, where he took a job after graduation working for Mo Udall at the House Interior Committee's Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment. For a year and a half, Shorin kept his eye on radioactive waste disposal procedures, uranium mining and enrichment, and other civilian energy and natural resource issues.

By 1986, he had decided to return to school for a law degree—he figured he could better protect the environment in the courtroom. He and fellow Rollins grad BK Cody '84 rented a van and drove around the country visiting national parks and checking out law schools. By the end of their two-month trip, the pair had put 15,000 miles on the van and Shorin had fallen in love with Eugene, Oregon. He enrolled at the University of Oregon School of Law. On the first day of classes, he met Bonnie Potts; they married the day before graduation.

Following a one-year law clerkship with Judge Sarah Grant, then Chief Judge of the Arizona Court of Appeals, Shorin became an assistant attorney general in the Washington State Attorney General's Office. He has since worked with several Washington State agencies on a range of

environmental issues, including pesticide-application laws, acquisition of parklands, management of timber sales from State trust lands, and cleanup of toxic-waste sites. It was in the course of the latter that Shorin became involved in litigation for the Hanford Site, the largest environmental cleanup site in the world.

Created in the 1940s as part of the Manhattan Project, the federal government produced weapons-grade plutonium at Hanford for over 40 years. Today, the site is operated by the U.S. Department of Energy and its mission is focused primarily on cleanup. The 586-square-mile site contains over 53 million gallons of high-level radioactive waste stored in 177 underground tanks, tens of thousands of drums of buried radioactive waste, and over 200 square miles of contaminated ground water that is leaking into the Columbia River, the lifeblood of the Pacific Northwest. Shorin spent six years leading the State's legal efforts to, as he describes it, "hold the federal government's feet to the fire" to clean up Hanford, including securing a key federal-court injunction prohibiting the government from sending more radioactive waste to Hanford until it had adequately assessed the environmental impacts and made sufficient progress dealing with the waste already at the site. Completing that job, according to Shorin, will take decades and may cost as much as \$100 billion.

He won't be waiting around for that to happen, though. Last year, Washington Attorney General Rob McKenna appointed Shorin chief of the Office's Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Division. Shorin now oversees 10 lawyers who help manage State fish, wildlife, and lands for conservation, recreation, and commercial and tribal harvest; regulate development to protect fish habitat; and recover endangered species like salmon.

Occasionally, Shorin gets out of the office and onto the lands he helps protect. He enjoys backpacking and makes time to take separate trips with each of his three children, time he spends teaching them about the world around them.—*Maureen Harmon*



# Rollins Goes Hollywood



Rollins students on *The Price is Right* set: (l-r) Annie Hable '06, Louis Lenglet '06, Kristen Gunther '06, Kelly Bylsma '06, Yvette Kojic '07, Ebonii Foster '06, Laura Ramos '09, Lauren Kennedy '09, Conrad Winslow '06, and Carrie Bonnell '06



(l-r) Asunta D'Urso Fleming '81 with Christian LeBlanc, star of *The Young and the Restless*, and a friend from her acting days.

“There were no glimmering rhinestones and cheap illusions on this ride—every aspect of our adventure was designed to show us the true nature of the Hollywood dream machine. It takes passion. It takes work. It takes discipline.”

—Ebonii Foster '06

This Spring Break, instead of heading to the beach, 10 Rollins students opted to invest in their futures. Thanks to the arrangements made by Alumni Association Board of Directors member **Asunta D'Urso Fleming '81** and Rollins' Office of Career Services, students had the opportunity to travel to L.A. to make connections in the entertainment industry and learn about “real life” in Tinsel Town.

Whether in Hollywood or wherever life takes you, connections play a vital role in career success. No one understands this more than Fleming, an accomplished entertainer who went blindly into the industry thinking she could “just make it.” With a lot of hard work, she did—but she knows now the road would have been a lot easier if she had had the opportunity in college to make connections in the field and gain insight into what was *really* in store. Wanting to use her experience to help Rollins students aspiring to careers in entertainment, Fleming used her connections to make new ones: Working in conjunction with **Jane Cordray-Brandon**, director of career services, she made plans for the students to travel to L.A. to meet with actors, screenwriters, casting directors, costume designers, and producers.

The students enjoyed a complete behind-the-scenes tour of CBS studios, led by *The Young and the Restless* star Christian LeBlanc, who brought them on the set of the show to watch a live taping. LeBlanc also arranged for them to meet with some of the younger *Y&R* stars, who provided insights on how they got their jobs and on their day-to-day experiences in the acting world. Students also had the opportunity to meet with **Janis Hirsch '72**, co-executive producer of *Will & Grace* and screenwriter of sitcoms like *Murphy Brown* and *Frasier*; and **John Kavanaugh '83**, a composer for Disney theme parks and motion pictures. Thanks to Hirsch, aspiring actress **Deanna Russo '02** met personally with the *Will & Grace* team.

“I now understand the importance of networking,” said **Conrad Winslow '06**. “I was blown away by the number of speakers who were genuinely interested in helping students begin careers in Los Angeles. Every one of them encouraged us to contact them—and I will. The effect of the trip for me was a removal of the magic curtain between production and consumers. Although I understand now more than ever how hard it is to be successful in the entertainment industry, I can also see that there are many pathways.”

The L.A. trip was the third such networking opportunity for students sponsored by Career Services. Last year, one group of students traveled to Washington, DC to explore Capitol Hill—an experience that resulted in a job with Congressman Connie Mack (R-FL) for **Amber Prange '05**—and another group went to New York City, where they met with some of Rollins' most successful alumni representing the investment, media, fashion, and sports industries. ■



(l-r) Janis Hirsch '72, Kelly Bylsma '06, and Asunta D'Urso Fleming '81

To view more L.A. photos, visit  
<http://www.rollins.edu/alumni/events/photos/>



Class News Editor: Laura J. Cole '04



## 1936

In October 2001, **Eloisa Williams Kilgore's** husband of 60 years, Jess, passed away. The couple had ranched together in Montana for 53 years of their marriage and raised two daughters. In September, Eloisa celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## 1950

In March, **Mary Flanders Cook** and her husband, Bert, welcomed their 12<sup>th</sup> grandchild, Garrett Geoffrey, into the world. In November, they enjoyed a 10-day trip to Sicily.

## 1953

**Phyllis Harbula Foote** (see *Weddings*) and her new husband, Charles, now live in New Smyrna Beach, FL, not far from Phyllis's children—daughter Andrea, who practices family law in Orlando, and son John, a radiologist in Ocala. Phyllis writes, "I still keep in contact with my former Rollins roommate **Peggy Bross Lynch** and my former sister-in-law **Frances Defenlon Cain '54.**"

## 1955

**William Boggess** sends news that his granddaughter, Chantell Burch, will graduate from Seattle University in May. He writes, "Chantell has been the starting center and captain on the girls' basketball team."



## 1956

After 40 years, **John Opdyke** has retired from practicing internal medicine.

## 1964

At their annual awards gala in January, *Business to Business* Magazine named BellSouth chairman and CEO **Duane Ackerman** its CEO of the Year.



## 1966

**John Noel** has been active in land preservation through conservation easements. His partnership, Parnassus, saved approximately 3,000 acres of land deemed globally rare by the Nature Conservancy. Through international travel focused on the environ-

ment, John has worked with Jacques Cousteau, Baroness Thatcher of England, and the Minister of Construction of China.

## 1968

**Nona Gandelman** is vice president of communications for the Jane Goodall Institute. In October 2004, **Laurinda Reger Griffith** retired from her position as supervisor of mental health counselors for the Navy. Prior to this position, Lauri established social service agencies for the Army in Germany and worked as a quality assurance manager for the Navy in Memphis, TN. She writes, "My hobby is painting in watercolors and acrylics."

Mauritius, Tanzania, Zambia, and South Africa. She writes, "My message: go out and experience the world!"

## 1970

Ecuador's Chamber of Commerce conferred **Gaby Forster-Kohn** with a merit award for work and social conscience. Gaby writes, "Ecuador, like all nations, is globalized, and there is much more to do and to come." In March, **Jim Ross** visited Rollins for the second time in 36 years and got together with **Bill** and **Jane Wilson Bieberbach '71**. Jim and his wife, Nancy, also visited **Tris Colket** and his wife, Kathy, in Vero Beach, FL. He writes, "Nancy and I virtually dropped in on Kathy and Tris, and we ended

## 1972

**John Dickinson** and his wife, Jackie, have moved to Aberdeen, Scotland, where John is now legal manager for Chevron Upstream Europe.

## 1973

In March, **Peter Phillips** returned to Rollins to speak at a Philanthropy & Nonprofit Leadership Center luncheon. Peter discussed "Community Organizing: Turning Ordinary People into Advocates." He is the executive director of the Federation of Congregations United to Serve (FOCUS), which has been instrumental in a number of successful advocacy and lobbying efforts. **Steve Thompson '74MBA** has moved his business, Emery Thompson Machinery, from the Bronx, its location for 101 years, to Brooksville, FL. Steve is president and CEO of the company, which continues to build ice-cream-making machinery.



## READER RESPONSE

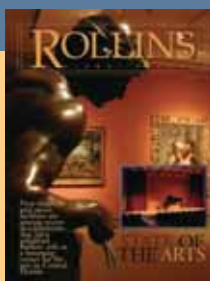
### EDITOR:

I just wanted to thank you for the Spring '06 arts issue of the *Rollins Alumni Record*. I thoroughly enjoyed all the informative articles and photos. It was such fun to read and look at it all. I especially enjoyed the profile of fellow classmate Dana Ivey and the tribute to Herbert Hellwege, who was on campus while I was there."

—Judith Williams Moen '63

I wanted to say how nice the *Alumni Record* looks. I work in publications as a writer/editor, so I know the work that's involved. The juxtaposition of shorter articles or blurbs in the magazine and more in-depth articles offers great variety. Since I'm a writer, I tend to get my fill of longer articles when I do research, and when I write them, so I like the short tidbits that are easy to scan. I also like the photo insets—smaller shots superimposed on larger ones in a collage fashion. It provides diverse visual appeal.

—Greg Ling '76



## 1969

**Maria-Elena Dubourt Dunn** still lives in Africa, where her husband is now the US Ambassador to Togo. Her oldest son, David, is finishing a degree in South Africa, and her youngest son, Brian, just ended his first year in the US Air Force Academy. Maria-Elena has lived and traveled to many countries all over the world, including Jamaica, Tunisia, France, Burundi,

up witnessing the launch of Tris's newly renovated sport fishing boat. We also met their two children, **Tris Colket '00** and **Lizzy Colket '03.**"



## 1976

**Lisa Miller** writes, "Real estate has been good to me. I'm working in Florida and grateful to be back in the warmer climate." During Christmas, **Melissa Morris Mishoe** visited her daughter, Elizabeth, in Madrid, Spain. They both traveled to southern Spain and Lisbon, Portugal. Her younger son,



**W**hen Rollins President Hamilton Holt recruited Malcolm H. "Mink" Whitelaw from Deerfield Academy in Massachusetts in 1934, he could not possibly have foreseen the impact that seemingly simple decision would have on the preservation of his Rollins legacy. Whitelaw, an honors student, majored in philosophy and quickly emerged as a campus leader, serving as publisher of *The Tomokan*, president of the Key Club, president of the X Club, and participant in a host of intramural sports. After graduating, he went on to a successful career in the financial services industry before his entrepreneurial spirit led him to venture into the dry cleaning business in Florida, for which he received national recognition.

To this day, Whitelaw remembers the profound influence President Holt had on both him and the College. Holt worked ardently to instill academic excellence at Rollins, and in that environment, Whitelaw found some of his fondest moments. "I continue to be grateful for the impact Dr. Wendell Stone, one of my philosophy professors, had on my life," Whitelaw said. "He encouraged his students to think for themselves and challenged me to participate at a level that I had never experienced before."

Today, Whitelaw and his wife, Amy, have chosen to honor and preserve Rollins' heritage



“I want to ensure that Rollins remains the same great institution in the future.”

—Malcolm H. "Mink" Whitelaw '38

of academic excellence by participating in a charitable gift annuity program. Whitelaw is pleased that their gifts, which they have designated for distribution among various academic and athletic programs, will benefit the College while providing them with a lifetime income. "Rollins is on an even better footing today than when I went there," he said, "and I want to ensure that it remains the same great institution in the future."

—Robert R. Cummins '03MBA



For information about planned giving at Rollins, please contact Robert R. Cummins, JD '03MBA, Director of Planned Giving, at 407-646-2606.

David, is a junior at the University of North Florida.

## | 1979

In January, **Barbara Bartles Pitcher** donated a kidney to her brother, who suffers from kidney failure and polycystic kidney disease. The transplant was a success, with her brother achieving "normal" kidney function within 48 hours. Barbara writes, "I encourage everyone to consider organ donation, even living donor donation. It saves lives." **Sandra Hardy DeWoody** is in her third year playing Iowa Housewife in the Orlando production of *Menopause The Musical*, which has become quite an international sensation. In 2004, Sandy and the Orlando cast toured Malaysia.

## | 1981

Though he was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis after graduation, **Richard Lamberty** has traveled all over the world as a professional dancer and instructor. The *Orlando Sentinel* writes that Richard is "one of the best 'leaders' in the world of dance" and is a "sought-after teacher, especially among male professional dancers." In 2005, he and his partner became the US same-sex standard-dance champions; and in 1998, he and a different partner won a bronze medal at the Gay Games in Amsterdam. Richard currently teaches at Dance Orlando.

## | 1982

Last year, **Anthony Wilner** left the Defence Intelligence Agency's Joint Intelligence Task Force - Combating

Terrorism, where he served for seven years as the liaison from the U.S. Department of Defense, and became the DoD liaison to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Recently, he accepted an additional liaison position at the U.S. Department of Justice in the Office of Intelligence Policy and Review. Outside of work, Tony remains active with the Rollins Alumni Association Board of Directors and the Rolls-Royce Owners' Club, and teaches gemstone cutting at one of three gem and mineral clubs he belongs to in the Baltimore-Washington, DC area.

## | 1983

**Cynthia Jennings Reeves** was featured in the 2004 March/April issue of *Golf For Women* as one of their Top 50

Teachers. C.J. was also the first woman to earn Metropolitan PGA Teacher of the Year in 2001. She teaches at Century Country Club in Purchase, NY.

## | 1984

**Dana Ballinger** does legal consulting with her law firm Ballinger Law in Sanibel, FL.

## | 1985

The University of South Florida College of Medicine appointed **Michael Morgan** full professor of pathology. This recognition was based upon his contributions to science, which include over 150 peer-reviewed articles and several books. Michael also received the prize as the most accomplished dermatopathologist in the world under 45-years-old.



## | 1986

After three years, **Elizabeth Keamey Kica** has been promoted to operations centre manager for Lightspeed Research, an online market research solutions provider.

## | 1987



In February, **Lou Larsen** launched the nation's first fully online law firm, e-Lawyer.com. The online practice concentrates in will preparation and

other advance planning. Although currently offering services exclusively in FL, the firm is aggressively expanding to cover the entire nation.

## | 1990

In March, **Ian and Stephanie Holden O'Neil '91** visited Colorado, where their sons, Holden and James, attended ski school.



## | 1991

**Robert Ober** (See *Family Additions*) works at Kent School in Kent, CT as a history teacher. He recently opened Ober Gallery, which specializes in contemporary art. He writes, "Chi Psi brothers, get in touch with me!"

## | 1992

In April, **DeeDee Dennington Kidd** (see *Family Additions*) and her husband, Huey, gave birth to triplet girls, who were conceived on fertility medication, at 23 weeks gestation. All three girls were about one pound at birth. Unfortunately, they lost Alexi and Abbey at two and four days, respectively; however, Emily is home now, after spending six months in the hospital, and doing well. DeeDee writes, "I am pregnant again—naturally this time—which is a very big surprise." In 1994, **Tracie Pough** received an MA in public administration and policy from FSU. For seven years, Tracie worked in



the Florida state government, both in the Legislature and the Department

of Juvenile Justice. She is currently living and working in Washington, DC as chief of staff to Florida Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz. **Pamela Zortman Saia-Rogers** (See *Weddings*) is a criminal defense attorney in Massachusetts. Her husband, John, is a former three-time world champion heavyweight kickboxer, a retired star of the WWE, and is currently a professional powerlifter. They reside in Brentwood, NH and Las Vegas, NV.

## | 1993



In November, **Michael J. Karger** attended the Fresh Air Fund Benefit in New York City, where he ran into Mariah Carey.

## | 1994

**Tania Sebastian-Drew** completed her first year at the University of Florida's Levin College of Law. She ranked number one overall in her class, was invited to join the Law Review, and will work for Greenberg Traurig this summer in Virginia. In October, **Kristie Schorer** ran into **Jessica Zimmerman Day '95** at the World Ironman Championships in Kona, HI.



Kristie was supporting friends who were racing, and Jessica was volunteer-

ing in the medical tent with her husband, Thomas. Kristie writes, "I

# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD PROFILE

## LAURIN MATTHEWS BALDWIN '86 '89MAT

### ROLLINS IN HER BLOOD ■

Every spring, Laurin Matthews Baldwin travels with her husband and four children to her parents' quaint little country inn nestled in the

mountains of North Carolina. One might expect they go there in search of a little peace and quiet. Not so. In fact, they rent the entire inn to make way for eight other families and a long weekend of chaos and activity.

A tradition that began in 1985, the Baldwin family's annual North Carolina "reunion" allows them to spend time with life-long friends who have one main connection: Rollins College. "This all started with me inviting a bunch of college friends to the inn," Baldwin said. "Now, we are all married with children, and it's so much fun to see these friends with their spouses and their growing children. Our kids have become such good friends that they call each other cousins."

Baldwin's family ties to Rollins run even deeper than this close-knit group of friends: Her parents, **The Rev. Dan Matthews '55** and **Diane Vigeant Matthews '52**, are both Rollins alumni, as is her nephew, **John Baldwin '98**. And her niece married Rollins alumnus **Chad Stone '98**. "My main goal in high school was to go to college at a Southeastern Conference school," Baldwin said. "But mom and dad suggested just 'looking' at Rollins. I did, and I fell in love with it and never looked back."

The educational environment has always been important to Baldwin, who graduated from Rollins in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in education. She went on to teach at Casselberry Elementary School for three years while earning a master's degree in teaching from Rollins. Then, after marrying

**Robert Neil Baldwin '85** in 1989 and moving to Massachusetts, she taught first grade until their first child was born in 1991.

Being a full-time mom to Neil (14), Daley (12), Danny (10), and Keelan (8) takes a majority of her time now, but Baldwin anticipates returning to the classroom in the future. "I miss teaching a lot," she said. "Whenever I see the school buses, I think about it. It's in my blood. I hope to go back to it when there's a green light here at home."

In the meantime, she has been happy to be able to volunteer her time to her alma mater as a member of the Rollins Alumni Association Board of Directors. She especially enjoys getting to know people from other class years and hearing their stories about what Rollins was like during their student days. "It's amazing to me how a very small school can bridge so many decades," she said. "I wish everyone could have the opportunity to work on the board—to know and appreciate other alumni and to give back to their alma mater in this way."

She is still a true believer in a Rollins education. "I believe the reason Rollins continues to thrive is because it is the kind of place that helps students figure out who they are and where they are going. The kids are getting a whole education, not just a physics or math education. They are getting a whole picture of life, and learning how to learn for life."—*Kelly Russ*

Baldwin (top l) and her extended Rollins family

hope to see her again at future Ironman World Championships. It was fabulous to see her—Rollins friends are everywhere!"

## | 1995

In April, **Jennifer Candee Zaharewicz** (see *Weddings*) and her husband, Gregory, moved to London, where Greg is starting the European division for Hilco. Jennifer will continue to

work remotely as director of recruiting for the Quiznos Corporation.

## | 1996

**Heather Sapey-Pertin** lives in Annecy, France and works at the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. She writes, "I am married, loving life, and *finally* speaking French."

## | 1998

**Sabrina Anico** recently accepted a promotion as the new director of marketing for the Mahaffey Theater of the Performing Arts in St. Petersburg, FL. She writes, "I am looking forward to establishing the theater both regionally and nationally as a versatile world-class performing arts facility." In March, **Jennifer Gaines** attended the wedding of **Ellen Dittmer '97** and



## ROB BEALL '90

### CHASING THAT PIE IN THE SKY ■

Despite the advent of the Food TV Network and countless chefs encouraging us to eat low-carb and love it, feast on gourmet fare, and sample international cuisine, nothing seems to diminish America's obsession with pizza. And nobody knows that more than Rob Beall '90, who heads up Ledo Pizza, one of the fastest-growing pizza chains in the country. "My grandfather opened up the original restaurant 50 years ago," Beall said. "He had the foresight to see that pizza could be very profitable."

That first restaurant was located strategically across from the University of Maryland campus, where it quickly became a hang-out for students and senators alike. "The pizza business helped finance my Rollins education," said Beall, who double majored in economics and philosophy.

Although it seemed only natural that Beall would consider stepping into the family business after graduation, he couldn't quite visualize himself taking over the day-to-day operations of Ledo's growing number of restaurants. It wasn't long before father and son formulated a franchise concept. Now, with Beall as CEO and his brother, Jamie, as president, there are over 75 Ledo Pizza stores in Delaware, Maryland, Washington, DC, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, and the company is growing by leaps and bounds. Beall is quick to credit the multi-talented team that has propelled this growth. "I think to be successful, you need to surround yourself with people who have skills you don't have," he said. "Lucky for me, I am from a family with many skills...where we lack, we hire great people to fill in the gaps, and each person has a special gift on which we all depend."

So, what's behind the Ledo Pizza craze? Well, for starters, their pizzas definitely stray from the traditional concept of the round



pizza pie predictably topped with mozzarella cheese. At Ledo, pizza takes the shape of a rectangle and is cut into squares. But according to Beall, the ingredients are what really set it apart. "We use a thin flaky crust, a rich, thick sweet sauce—and each pizza is topped with a full pound of smoked provolone. We don't believe in scrimping."

Despite Ledo Pizza's evolution into an incredibly successful franchise, the Bealls have not lost sight of their customer base: families. "We coordinate a charity golf tournament each year for the Johns Hopkins Children's Hospital," Beall said. "We felt like this was a perfect match for our company and a way to give something meaningful back to the community."

The future looks exciting for Ledo Pizza. They currently are on target to reach their goal of 100 locations within five years, and there are plans to create a new concept in the coming years for existing franchisees. One can't look to the future without taking a look at the past, though. "I credit Rollins with giving me a sense of independence and a chance to identify and develop my strengths," Beall said. "My economics professors gave me practical information that has been valuable in running a business, while Hoyt Edge, Tom Cook, and crew in philosophy watered my brain and gave me room to grow."—Zaida Rios

visited the Rollins campus with sorority sisters **Christina Cirillo Boyle** and **Jennifer Crider**. Jennifer writes, "It was great to be back and see all of the new additions to the campus. We had so much fun reconnecting with old friends that we are planning a mini Chi Omega reunion in Austin, TX this October. Yee haw!" **Evonne Sammartino Hopkins** is a criminal defense lawyer with Robert H. Hale, Jr.

Attorney at Law in Raleigh, NC. **Chapman** and **Josie Miles Stewart** moved from Washington, DC to Denver, CO, where Chapman began a new post with Mountain Hardwear, Inc. as the visual merchandiser for accounts in the western states and Josie accepted a job with the Denver Zoo as manager of the planned giving program. They write, "We hope everyone is well. Feel free to contact us if you're heading

to the Rocky Mountains." **Vanessa Valle Vogel** works as the director of media for Audrey Ross, a real estate firm in South FL. In January 2003, **Nikki White Lazzaretto** (see *Family Additions*) received her MA degree in teaching and leadership from Xavier University. She continues to teach dance part-time while raising her two children.

## | 1999

**Ralph Voight** works as the director of guest relations at the Witte Museum in San Antonio, TX.

## | 2000

In January, **Marc Bianchi '04MBA** was named a principal at Turner Investment Partners, which manages more than \$18 billion in assets in growth, value, and core stocks for institutions and individuals. In March, **Sara Davda** was promoted to global production manager of the GapBody division of Gap, Inc. In this position, Sara oversees garment production for intimate apparel and swimwear for GapBody stores in the US, Canada, and Europe. Since graduating, **Marla Mullen** has worked for two sports marketing firms, including Octagon; has started her own agency, M3 Management, which represents professional athletes; and has launched a real estate firm in MA, which represents buyers and uses technology to streamline the buying process. In December, **Alison Roach Banchiere** received her MA from Western Carolina University. She was recently named Teacher of the Year at the Pleasant Garden Elementary in McDowell County, NC. Ali and her husband **Nate Banchiere '01** live in Black Mountain, NC. Nate is an assistant branch manager of Wachovia Bank in Asheville.



## | 2001

**Andrea Figel** recently made a drastic career change from working with costumes in musical theater to becoming a licensed mortgage broker in FL. In April, **Heather Leonardi** performed in *You Can't Take It With You*, a play about a delightfully eccentric family, on the Orlando Repertory Theatre's main stage. In 2002, **Oscar Pinkas** received an MBA from Solvay Business School in Brussels, Belgium.



While there, he created a ground-up expansion of a corporate event-planning firm, which was later successfully implemented. He is currently completing a JD at Seton Hall School of Law.

## | 2002

**Anna DeMers** works as a choreographer with Empty Spaces Theatre Company in Orlando. In March, her company presented a world premiere of *Stripped* at the Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival. The original composition for *Stripped* was created by **Kevin G. Becker '98**. **Michelle Gongage** is still moving along her new job path into the finance world. She writes, "I am still doing art on the side as my hobby and passion." In February,



**Sascha Heller** met up with **Dorcas Gilmore '00** and **Chad Harris '00** in Washington,

DC. In February, **Rebecca Johnson** played Madame de la Grand Bouche in the Seaside Music Theater's production of *Beauty and the Beast* in Daytona. She is working on her MA in musical theater at the University of Central Florida. In March, **Liz Rubin** and her dog Foxy appeared on the premiere of the WB's new show *Survival of the Richest*.



## | 2003

In December, **Craig Zissel** completed the purchase of his second home, graduated from the University of Baltimore School of Law, and began working as a law clerk for The Honorable Louis A. Becker of the Howard County Circuit Court.

## | 2004

**Whitney Morse** lives in Aspen, CO, where she is performing in a show at The Crystal Palace Theatre Restaurant. She writes, "It is a cabaret-style, political satire. I am having a blast here, but I plan to move to Chicago to further pursue my theater career."

## | 2005

After graduating, **Yvette McKibbin** began studies at Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville. She plans to study abroad in Italy this summer. After moving to New York City for an internship with Giorgio Armani's Armani Collezione, **Marissa Williams** was offered a job with up-and-coming designer John Varvatos, whose line is owned by the VF Corporation. Along

## SANDRA JORDAN '68

**CRAFTY BUSINESS** ■ If you're on the lookout for the perfect wine decanter or silver serving piece, your search just got easier. After years of living a coveted wine-country lifestyle, Sandra Jordan decided to channel her design skills and style sense into an appealing line of wine accessories and home goods.

Jordan's appreciation for hand-crafted goods was nurtured from a young age. "Growing up in Peru, we were spoiled by the local artisan silversmiths, potters, artists, and furniture makers who supplied our family with a variety of custom-crafted items," she said. "I wanted to bring that old-world tradition back and make it accessible for people to purchase high-quality handcrafted items, the kind that are certain to become treasured pieces."

Jordan and her husband, Tom, live in Sonoma Valley wine country in the scenic northern sector of California. Situated on a hilltop, the French Bordeaux estate-inspired Jordan Winery boasts an amazing view of Geyser Peak and Mt. St. Helena. As the winery's creative director, Jordan has infused her decorating sensibilities into the establishment's rooms and guest cottages.

The environment serves as the perfect influence for her new line of goods, which includes decanters, hand-crafted silver, custom-designed fabrics, and stunning Prima Alpaca throws drawn from her native Peru. Not to mention that Jordan has a wealth of world-traveling experience to draw on—from visiting flea markets in Paris to walking the lively merchant-filled streets of India. Her store and home to her collection, the Red Barn, is a place where designers and customers mingle, though by appointment only.



Jordan moved to the California wine country in 1968 after earning a degree in international affairs from Rollins, and she has been there ever since. She spent many years as a teacher and linguist before getting into the wine business, so it is not surprising that one of her pet projects is creating Jordan Winery's newsletter. She is also developing a book titled *The Art of Decanting*, to be published by Chronicle Books (San Francisco) later this year. "I worked with a writer and a photographer to assemble this book—it was important to me to share the essence of what sharing food and wine are all about," Jordan explained. "I wanted to bring out all the wonderful elements associated with wine."

Although a native of Peru, Jordan hasn't even the slightest hint of an accent, for which she gives credit to Rollins. "My room was on the second floor of the Chi Omega house—right above an outdoor pay phone, so I could hear all these American accents chatting back home," she laughed. "That's one of the ways I was able to pick up on the enunciation of English words."—Zaida Rios

with making sure merchandise hits stores accordingly, Marissa assists with client buys by such stores as Bloomingdale's, Neiman Marcus, and Saks Fifth Avenue. She writes, "I'm

enjoying living in SoHo and all of the aspects NY has to offer." **Aubrey Wysocki Thompson** sends news that in March, the Rollins crew team had an alumni gathering at the Bradley

Boathouse. Some of alumni in attendance were **Melissa Minkler '03**, **Laura Riecki '03**, Aubrey's husband **Brandon Thompson '03**, **Lance Barrett '04**, **Bart Boughton '04**, **Laura Deaver '04**, **Jonathan Diaz '04**, **Joe Fay '04**, **Carrie Rhodes '04**, **John Tessier '04**, **Justin Van Dyke '04**, **Brian Waterfield '04**, **Meredith Gibboney**, **Mija Gibboney**, **Wood Hudson**, **Stephanie Keller**, and **Scott Leman**.





## MEGAN BENNETT '02

### GROWING GARDENS OF HOPE ■

When Megan Bennett joined the Peace Corps as a volunteer in 2003, she had no idea what type of impact she would end up making in the Dominican Republic—that she would help a village flourish like never before. Bennett is currently working in Buena Vista, a community that had never previously seen a Peace Corps Volunteer. “Our job is not to come equipped with cash or goods, but to provide people with ideas, organizational skills, or just a good old pat on the back to let them know they have the knowledge, power, and ability to make some serious changes in their camp or even their country.”

When Bennett first arrived in the DR, she quickly learned the residents were eating little more than rice and starch vegetables. When she asked people why they didn’t travel to the farmers’ market in nearby San Juan to buy food, they told her they couldn’t afford it. “Why not grow your own food?” Bennett thought. That’s when her creative wheels started spinning.

Her mission became improving the overall nutrition of the residents of Buena Vista, and she soon launched Proyecto Huertos Caseros, or The House Garden Project. The project started small and discreetly. “We began with a house garden at my host family’s home,” Bennett explained. “We didn’t want to advertise it in case it was a failure.” A year later, there were 25 homes with flourishing organic gardens—far surpassing Bennett’s original goal of 10 in the first year. Using seeds donated by Seeds of



Change, a U.S. company that produces organic foods, the gardens grow vitamin-rich veggies such as greens, tomatoes, beets, carrots, eggplant, cucumbers, and okra, as well as melons, corn, beans, yucca, and rice.

The House Garden Project came to fruition with the help of the Peace Corps’ Serve and Play program, which provides used and donated sports equipment to reward youth for community-service work. Word

spread quickly about the project, and Bennett soon had the help of 80 boys from the local high school baseball team. “It only took two months for them to go from two gardens to 25,” she said. “I couldn’t keep enough baseball equipment on hand or find enough equipment to give the boys what they had earned. I am still in debt to them.”

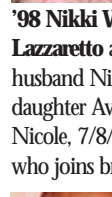
What Bennett finds most rewarding about working for the Peace Corps is encouraging others to be productive in their communities. “I am most proud of how my project has come together mainly through the efforts of the community members and not myself. I have been able to stay on the outside and act as a facilitator, rather than a ringmaster,” she said. The ultimate goal of The House Garden Project is to create a self-sustaining farmers’ market for Buena Vista and surrounding communities—a goal Bennett is confident will be reached.

What else is in her future? “I would consider another stint in the Peace Corps—maybe even during retirement. Whatever jobs I have in the future will definitely be based in community service.”—Jeni Flynn Hatter

**'95 Elizabeth Lee Williamson** and husband Heath, son T. Ayers, 11/12/05.



**'97 Jeffrey Henry** and wife Kristine, daughter Dylan Mary, 3/1/06, who joins sister Ryann Olivia, 2.



**'98 Nikki White Lazzaretto** and husband Nick, daughter Ava Nicole, 7/8/05, who joins brother Nicholas, 3.



**Staci Birdsong McNally** and husband Morgan, daughter Maille Lisa, 1/31/06.



**'99 Kristen Kelly Heney** and husband Brian, son Casey McGinn, 10/25/05, who joins brother Kellan, 2.

**'00 Rob and Jessica Wollaston Stanton** '99, son John “Jack” Robert, 11/2/05.



### WEDDINGS

**'53 Phyllis Harbula** to Charles R. Foote, 4/30/05.

**'90 Stephanie Zimand** to Jon Plexico, 10/8/05, in Carmel Valley,



CA; attendees: **Greg '87** and **Kerry Fortune Carlsen '91**, **Mike MacPherson '89**, **Ann Casey, Jill Wood Johnson, Ian**

and **Stephanie Holden O'Neil, Jim and Elizabeth Key Reid, Annlouise Hamilton Brown '91, Merritt Whelan Weber '91, and David '92 and Vandy Woods Boudreau '92.**

**'92 Pamela Zortman Saia** to John Rogers.

**'95 Jennifer Candee** to Gregory Zaharewicz, 1/28/06, in Steamboat Springs, CO.



### FAMILY ADDITIONS

**'88 Philip J C Roofthoof** and wife Sarah, daughter Alexandra Mia, 10/10/05, who joins brother James, 2.

**'90 Jeffrey Husvar** and wife Ann, daughter Claudia Marie, 11/7/05.

**'91 Robert Ober** and wife Amy, son Robert Fairchild IV, 3/12/05.

**'92 Alex Bichel** and wife **Lida Buritica Bichel** '95HH, daughter, Sabrina Sydney, 8/20/05.

**DeeDee Dennington Kidd** and husband Huey, triplet daughters Emily Madison, Alexi Christina (deceased), and Abigail Grace (deceased), 4/19/05, sisters of brother Clayton, 3. **Gerrit and Tessa Rowan**



**Goss '97**, son Holland Johnston, 1/18/06, who joins brother Rowan, 3.

**'94 Kristen Broadhead Cashel** and husband Colin, son Charles Wright, 08/24/05.



**Edward Retz Maple** to Carey Ann Neeld, 4/16/05, at Glenn Memorial



Methodist in Atlanta, GA; groomsmen: **Mike Barta, Derek Boom, Alex Collins, and Ramsey Small**; attendees: **Darrell Alfieri '93,**

**Chris Brown '93, James Kelly '93, Graeme Marshall '94, Patrick O'Donnell '94, Brandon Rippeon '94, Drew Stepek '94, Rodney Woodstock '94, Ryan Miller, Matt Pistone '97, and Fred Toettcher '97.**

**'98 Ilisa Sokolic** to Joshua Goldman, 7/10/05, in

San Diego, CA; women of honor:

**Amanda Buttinger** and **Mariah**



**Hill**; attendees: **Samantha Welch** and **Emma Lebel '99.**

**'04 Angela Sloniger** to Michael Lunsford, 10/1/05.

## IN MEMORY

**'35 Everett L. Roberts** died January 16, 2005. Bud was the first full-time bandmaster at St. Petersburg High School, a position he held for over a decade; was a captain in the Army Signal Corps in WWII; had taught music at Winter Park High School and Rollins College; and was a member of the American Bandmasters Association, American School Band Directors Association, and the Florida Music Educators Association. He is survived by his wife, Anna.

**'38 Robert L. Vogel** died November 28, 2005. Robert was a member of the Niantic Community Church and the Oswegatchie Hills Club and an avid tennis player. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, a daughter, and a son.

**'38 Ruth Blunden Scrimsher** died March 7, 2006. Ruth was a charter member of the Belleair Country Club and Women's Golf Association.

**'41 Frederick C. Kasten** died December 8, 2005. Frederick was an engineer who developed the first light-weight chain saw and was instrumental

## SPOTLIGHT ON YOUNG ALUMNI

—By Vickie Pleus



### Erica Sorrell '95 '05MBA

[iesorrell@rollins.edu](mailto:iesorrell@rollins.edu)

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS AT ROLLINS—Erica Sorrell graduated as a French major in 1995 with the vision of getting master's and doctoral degrees in the language and then teaching it. But, work opportunities took her down a different path, and her idea of teaching French soon faded.

Upon graduation, Sorrell jumped into human resources work. For years, she provided HR leadership in the hospitality field—from Florida to Texas to New York. However, she soon realized she needed more than years of experience to advance into management. "I came to a point that I needed to make a change," Sorrell said. "I had gotten as far as I could with my undergraduate degree and knew that if I had an MBA, I could do

a lot more in human resources. So, it started to come together. For me, there was no choice; it was Crummer. I knew from experience that I couldn't do any better than Rollins."

This spring, Sorrell underwent her first annual review as executive director of the Bush Executive Center at Rollins College, a position she took last year within two months of graduating from Crummer and with the guidance of mentor and Crummer professor Bob Prescott. The Center provides management and executive education to business professionals.

After a year on the job, how does this young director think her employees would respond if asked about her management style? "I would hope they'd say I'm empowering, that I'm hands off, and that they have the ability to get things done," Sorrell said. "I also would hope they'd say I'm very open to new ideas, suggestions, and information. Their knowledge has helped me become a good director for the Center. For me, success is developing a team that works well...so the Center can grow and they can grow with the Center."



JED DUNSTAN

### Tyler Doggett '04

[wdoggett@rollins.edu](mailto:wdoggett@rollins.edu)

ROLLINS RECRUITER—When William "Tyler" Doggett graduated with a BA in economics in 2004, he knew the benefits a Rollins degree would offer for quick employment; but he didn't know how close he really was to his first job opportunity.

Upon graduation, Doggett returned home to Washington, DC to begin the job hunt. Soon thereafter, an opportunity arose in the admission office at Rollins, and he jumped at the offer. Doggett said his positive experience at Rollins made the decision easy for him. "I knew that my familiarity and comfort with Rollins would make it easy to begin my career here. I had had a great experience in college—it was so easy to make the decision to come back," he said.

And it looks like he's going to stay put for a while. After two years as an admission counselor, Doggett recently accepted a development position at the College that will allow him to use his experience as a student and a professional Rollins advocate to raise funds in support of his alma mater. Instead of recruiting students, he'll be recruiting support.

Doggett plans to build on the insight and experience gained in the Rollins admission office, where he was responsible for recruiting students from Maryland; Washington, DC; Delaware; and other parts of the East Coast and Florida. Over the past two fall admission cycles, he helped bring in about 20 percent of the College's applicant pool. Some of his daily tasks included calculating GPAs and reviewing essays.

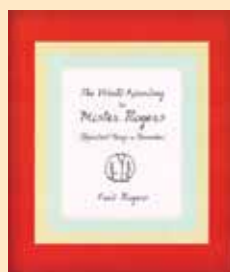
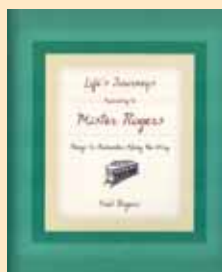
But by far his favorite part of his job was the travel, and he's looking forward to new opportunities to travel as a development officer. "I enjoyed going out on the road and meeting prospective students and their families," he said. "Now I'll be meeting with alumni, keeping them informed of what's happening at Rollins and making them feel connected," he said. "I can truly appreciate how much their gifts mean...how much the students and faculty benefit from them. It's easy for me to sell Rollins because of all of my wonderful experiences here."



## CD TRIBUTE TO FRED "MISTER" ROGERS '51 WINS GRAMMY AWARD

*Songs from the Neighborhood: The Music of Mister Rogers*, featuring songs written by **Fred "Mister" Rogers '51** and performed by 12 top recording artists, won a 2006 Grammy Award. The starry musical tribute to Rogers includes an audio CD and "making of" music DVD featuring behind-the-scenes interviews with the artists.

Creating the CD was a labor of love for the stars, who undertook the project as a tribute to their late friend. The featured musicians, who together have earned more than 70 Grammy and Dove awards, include Amy Grant, BJ Thomas, Bobby Caldwell, CeCe Winans, Crystal Gayle, Donna Summer, John Pizzarelli, Jon Secada, Maureen McGovern, Ricky Skaggs, Roberta Flack, and Toni Rose. The CD, produced by Grammy-Award-winning artist Dennis Scott features all-new arrangements of Rogers' songs ranging in style from pop rock to jazz to bluegrass. The entire ensemble joins together for the last track, "Thank You for Being You," an original song by Scott.



"I love every song on this recording, and it's heartwarming to me that those who worked so hard to present this tribute to Fred have been deservedly honored by their peers in the Grammy organization," said Rogers' wife, **Joanne Byrd Rogers '50 '05H**.

A portion of proceeds from the sale of *Songs from the Neighborhood* will be donated to the nonprofit Fred Rogers Fund at Family Communications, Inc.

Two years after his passing, Fred Rogers remains an American icon. His pioneering television show, *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, is the longest-running program on PBS television and is still broadcast to millions of homes throughout the world each day. Rogers' signature red sweater, knit by his mother, is the third-most-popular item at the Smithsonian Institution.

*Songs From the Neighborhood* (\$16.99) is available through the Rollins Bookstore at 407-646-2133. Also available are two

books of Rogers' wisdom, *Life's Journeys According to Mister Rogers: Things to Remember Along the Way* (\$16.95) and *The World According to Mister Rogers: Important Things to Remember* (\$16.95), both featuring introductions by Joanne Rogers.

in the development of the Target Aircraft Engine used during WWII as training equipment. He is survived by his wife, Jane, two daughters, and a son.

**'42 Shirley Bassett Ely** died April 2, 2006, after a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease.



Shirley was active in many volunteer organizations, including the Junior League and the Manor Club, and was an active member of the Huguenot Memorial Church in Pelham, NY and the Shenorock Shore Club in Rye, NY. She is survived by her husband **Matthew Ely, Jr. '40** and three sons.

**'42 Janet Jones McCall** died February 4, 2006. Janet was active with the Red Cross during WWII. Later, she became active in local cultural and philanthropic endeavors, such as serving as a trustee of the Cleveland Ballet and the Center

for Performing Arts. She is survived by her husband, Julien, two daughters, and a son.

**'42 Martha Kithcart Hobach** died December 17, 2005. Martha was a photographer for Kodak Films and *Life* magazine, won international awards for her bronze miniatures, was a member of the Junior League and Daughters of the American Revolution, and founded the Bucketee Boat Club. She is survived by her husband, George, a daughter, and a son.

**'43 Philippa Herman Jones** died February 11, 2006.

**'47 Marny Shrewsbury Potter** died February 15, 2006. Since 1951, Marny had been a member of Bethesda Presbyterian Church and, over the years, served as a member of the choir, a Sunday school teacher, a circle chair, a moderator of Presbyterian Women, and a youth advisor. She was preceded in death by her husband **Richard Potter '47** and is survived by three sons and three daughters.

**'50 James B. Bartlett** died December 19, 2005. James served in the U.S. Army in the Pacific Theatre during WWII, was attorney-in-charge of the office of The Legal Aid Society of Charleston, and was a member of the Charleston Light Opera Guild, the Exchange Club, and the West Virginia Harvest Volunteers. He is survived by his wife, Patricia.

**'50 Martha Rowsey Anthis** died August 6, 2005. Marty was a member of Muskogee (OK) Country Club, Keystone Study Club, and the Garden Study Club, as well as chairperson of the Muskogee Public Library.

**'52 Gretel Braun Barnes** died December 30, 2005. Vicki was a retired executive scout leader trainer with the Girls Scouts of America. She is survived by her husband Robert and two daughters.

**'52 Paul Klores** died November 1, 2005. Paul was a retired vice president of Valley Bank and also worked with the Native American communities. He

is survived by his wife **Irene Berkman Klores** and a son.

**'53 M. William Ross** died February 25, 2006. Playing baseball for the United States Marine Corps, William and his team won the All Navy Baseball Championship in 1947. In 1964, William began his medical career in radiology. He was a member of the Medical Board for 11 years, was elected Chief of the Medical Staff in 1972, and was Chief of the Department of Radiology for 15 years. He is survived by his second wife, Elizabeth, and four daughters.

**'62 Ann Corbin Fatheree** died February 24, 2006. Ann was a sustaining member of the Junior League of



Amarillo. She is survived by two sons and a daughter.

'63 **Mary Mills Murphy** died January 29, 2006. Mary was a pioneer partner of her local Muscular Dystrophy Association, worked with Jerry Lewis several times, and was active with MDA's camps and activities. She is survived by two daughters, Mary and **Karen Murphy '85**.

'63 **Mickey Van Gerbig** died March 4, 2006. Mickey was a Palm Beach golfing legend. In 1976, he teamed with Ben Crenshaw for a sixth-place finish in the Bing Crosby Pro-Am. In 1977, he won five titles in six events at the Florida Amateur championship. In 1990, Mickey set a course record at the Everglades Club, and in 2002, he was inducted into the Palm Beach County Golf Association Hall of Fame. He is survived by a brother.

'66 **John A. Pistor '67MBA** died April 6, 2006. Before 1997, John was a dedicated employee of the Eastman Kodak Company in New York and Pittsburgh for 30 years. He was an avid hunter who spent some of his happiest days with his adored son, **Shawn Pistor '95 '99MBA**, in the woods of New York and Pennsylvania. He is survived by his wife, Joanna, and Shawn.

#### CORRECTION:

Our apologies to **Sally Fleischmann Oyler '95 '00MA** for incorrectly listing her last name in a memorial tribute to her father, **Ross A. Fleischmann '55**, that appeared on p. 46 of the Spring 2006 issue of the *Alumni Record*.

#### ROLLINS ALUMNI RECORD

### CLASS NEWS POLICIES

While we attempt to include as many submissions as possible in the Class News section, news items are limited to 50 words due to space restraints. Please provide all digital photos as high-resolution (300 dpi) jpg images. We accept prints, but they cannot be returned. Since the magazine is published only three times a year, news items may not appear for six to nine months from the date of submission. To ensure accuracy, personal news will be printed in the magazine only if it is received directly from the person who is the subject of the news, or if it is received in the form of a news clipping or press release. News of a deceased alumnus must be accompanied by an obituary. *Rollins reserves all editorial rights and final decisions for inclusion of Class News items.*

## DEBORAH LEVY '00

**NOSE FOR NEWS** ■ Debbie Levy is proof positive that internships really can lead to incredible career opportunities. Her internship experience as a Rollins student ultimately allowed her to land a professional position while she was still a senior in college.

Levy's "nose for news" took her to an internship with the Associated Press her freshman year, an experience that proved valuable in her later role as managing editor of Rollins' student newspaper, *The Sandspur*. She was also fascinated with TV news and secured an internship during her junior year at Orlando's WKMG Channel 6, where she immersed herself in the inner workings of a newsroom and the production of daily shows.

Although she wasn't a journalism major, Levy soon felt that she was a good fit for TV news. "There are two ways to approach journalism," she explained. "One is to learn how to write stories, edit, and stand and deliver in front of a camera; the other is to learn background information." It turned out she was a natural at the latter—particularly on the subject of politics. As a politics major with a minor in writing, Levy had acquired a knack for absorbing what was going on in the political arena and understanding its ramifications for society. "The knowledge I accumulated as a politics major really enabled me to grasp the angles and perspectives for stories," she said.

Television news seemed to be her destiny. Then, she was accepted into a prestigious summer program in political journalism at Georgetown University, and that experience sealed her career path. "WKMG was so pleased that I had been accepted into the program that they agreed to offer me a permanent position with them if I did well," Levy said. She didn't let them down. Although politically

neutral, Levy had the opportunity to intern at America's Voice, a Republican-based cable channel, where she worked with emerging political commentators such as Armstrong Williams and Mary Matalin. "It was the most amazing experience for me that summer—I got to interview Colin Powell and Dan Quayle," she said.

Upon her return to Rollins, WKMG made good on its promise and offered her a part-time associate producer posi-

tion during her senior year. "The hours were like a full-time job," she recalled. "I remember having to ask them not to page me during my finals. Of course, I wasn't too shocked when my beeper went off during my last exam!"

After two action-packed years at WKMG, Levy received a call from a station in Albuquerque, New Mexico, which led to her next career

step: a job as their morning news producer. Two years later, she left Albuquerque's ABC affiliate KOAT to return to Orlando as the morning newscast producer at WFTV Channel 9. Another not-to-be-missed opportunity presented itself three years later, and she assumed her current role as executive producer of the morning show at KPRC, the NBC affiliate in Houston, Texas.

The hours of a morning newscast can be daunting to the average person. Levy gets to the station at about 11 p.m. to prepare for the show, which runs from 5 to 7 a.m., and she doesn't leave until close to noon to go home and prepare for the next day. Sleep is definitely an elusive commodity for her these days, but the energetic young executive producer seems completely unruffled by it. "I can't imagine doing anything else," she said. "I work with the most incredible people—everyone is so passionate about their work." And that includes Levy.

—Zaida Rios





## REGIONAL EVENTS

### HOUSTON

In February, **Royce '80** and Jill Imhoff hosted a reception in Houston for alumni and friends. Many thanks to the steering committee: **Chris Domijan '78 '80MBA**, **Royce Imhoff '80**, **William Leisman '01**, **Debbie Levy '00**, **Christi Neuenschwander Parker '95**, and **David Thomas '98 '04MBA**.



(l-r) Jennifer Gaines '98 and Lauren Cravens Wert '86 '89MBA



(l-r) William Leisman '01, Nancy Riviere Heitshusen '95, Brian Heitshusen, Jennifer Gaines '98, and Doug Richards '98



(l-r) Crummer Director of Alumni Relations & Development **Dan Montplaisir**, **Michael Gillespie '00MBA**, and **Juan Gou '03MBA**



(l-r) Amanda Thompson, Senior Development Officer **Tatjana Chenoweth**, and **Charlotte Lenssen '88**



(l-r) **Lois Sawtelle Hochhauser '81** and **Leslie Lloyd Renz '80**



(l-r) **Leslie Lloyd Renz '80**, **Marie Perkins Lloyd '54**, and Senior Development Officer **Tatjana Chenoweth**

### CENTRAL FLORIDA

This winter, **Mary Lou Johnston '04** and **Martha Fusco '05** hosted a young alumni gathering at Fiddler's and **Lindsay Laskowski '04** and **Moya Nickodem '04** hosted an evening at PJ's Coffee and Wine Bar in Baldwin Park.



(l-r) Ryan Wright '97, Kevin Becker '98, Anna DeMers '02, and Luisa Valdes '01



(l-r) Martha Fusco '05, Lindsay Laskowski '04, Shannon Pranger '03, Leigh George '04, and Development Officer **Leslie Carney '03**



(l-r) Moya Nickodem '04, Martha Fusco '05, Alicia Milyak '02, Leigh George '04, Lindsay Laskowski '04, and Shannon Pranger '03



(l-r) Mike Bridges '03, Lindsay Isakson '04, Ryan Shaw '04, and Moya Nickodem '04

In April, Walt Disney World hosted a networking reception and panel discussion at the Disney's Contemporary Resort Convention Center for all Rollins alumni "Cast Members."

### NAPLES

Rollins College Trustee Andrew and **Margaret Banks Czekaj '77** hosted an alumni reception at the Naples Grande Resort and Club in April, giving alumni and parents the opportunity to meet President Lewis Duncan. Thanks to the steering committee members: **Alison Flick '04**, **Jack Johannesmeyer '02MBA**, **Jennifer Hosford Johannesmeyer '92**, and **David Morgan '85**.



(l-r) John Toppino '02, Grady Miars '93, Ian Butler '94, and Domenick Catanese '02



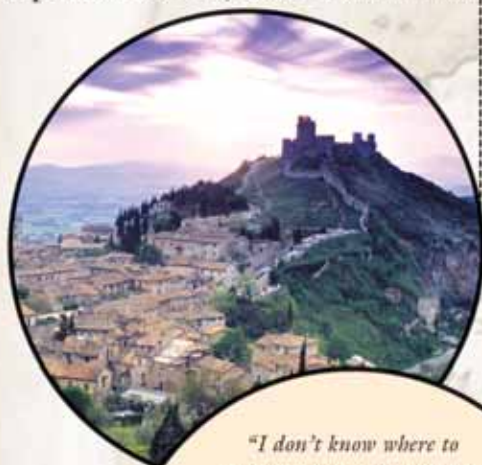
# ALUMNI

## ROLLINS COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TRAVEL PROGRAM

### *"Your Gateway to the World"*

*Village Life in Italy's  
Umbrian Hill Towns*

September 16 – 24, 2007



*"I don't know where to  
begin or how to describe the  
Amazon Voyage trip in Peru...Jake  
(my grandson) will probably become an  
environmentalist or photographer because  
of this trip...This was a trip of a lifetime!"*

**Dian Rausch Demmer '54**

*"Thank you, Rollins, for this very special  
experience...and for the memories."*

**Bill Clark '82**

Join us in our second  
year of the Rollins College  
Alumni Association Travel Program,  
where every tour offers a unique  
opportunity for exploration, education,  
and adventure with alumni and friends.  
We make travel easy and educational while  
offering a variety of destinations that  
will introduce you to fascinating  
cultures and breathtaking sights.  
Come travel with us!



*Village Life in  
England's Cotswolds*

July 16 – 24, 2006

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations:  
407.646.2266 or 800.799.ALUM (2586) • [www.rollins.edu/alumni](http://www.rollins.edu/alumni)

# TRAVEL





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# HOMECOMING 2006

## REMEMBER



## RELIVE



## REDISCOVER



### Save the Date!

### October 23-29

Celebrating an anniversary during  
**Homecoming** are the following class years:  
1936, 1946, 1956, 1966, 1976,  
1981, 1986, 1996, and 2001

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